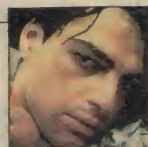


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# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 30 • No. 4 • 27 January 2000

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## No on Nell

**Assemblywoman Soto comes out against gay son**

by Katie Szymanski

It's the proposed anti-gay constitutional amendment supported by parents of gay kids, or so the Knight initiative seems, given the recent endorsement by California Assemblywoman Nell Soto (D-Pomona). Gay activists expressed outrage this week that Soto would follow in the footsteps of homophobic father and state Senator Pete Knight (R-Palm-dale) in declaring marriage as a union between a man and woman, thereby threatening the basic civil rights of their own children. Both Soto and Knight have openly gay sons, both have repeatedly voted for anti-gay legislation, and last Friday, January 21, Soto publicly endorsed Knight's Proposition 22, the Limit on Marriage initiative on the March 7 ballot.

But even more disturbing is the fact that Soto is the only Democrat to speak in favor of the initiative, a move that sidesteps her party line and has queer Democrats ready to pounce.

"We're really going after her on this one," said Esther Lee, co-chair of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club. Lee and Jean Harris, the new executive director of California Alliance for Pride and Equality, met with Soto as the *Bay Area Reporter* went to press on Wednesday, January 26. "We want to make it clear to her that the gay community has built coalitions ... with the labor movement, with Latino groups ... we are all people she has recruited for her election efforts, and we would like to work with her, not against her."

Lee said that if Soto did not change her position, a large campaign against the assemblywoman would begin, possibly hurting her chances for an upcoming state Senate race.

"I'm talking billboards that read, 'Shame on you Nell, for voting against your son,' and mailers that proclaim 'No on Nell, No on Knight,'" said Lee. "Or, if she changes her position, we can control the backlash. We don't want to lose a Democrat in office. But as it stands she has pissed off every single Democrat in the state Legislature."

Last year, Soto was one of five Democrats who voted against Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl's bill that would have provided protections to gay students. That bill was defeated by one vote after an all-night legislative session. While a different version of Kuehl's bill was ultimately passed by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Gray Davis last October, Soto's opposition to Kuehl's legislation upset activists.

Soto has also angered many Latins  
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## Wellness Center may close

by Terry Beswick

In a dispute with a private insurance company under contract with the federal government, a 1,500-patient clinic at the Davies Medical Center campus on Castro Street may be forced to close this Monday, January 31. The Wellness Center, which treats about 500 patients living with HIV and AIDS, is being accused of overbilling the government for the medical care it provides.

Dr. John Kaiser, the clinic's medical director, informed his patients of the likely closure in a January 19 letter.

"I find myself in the unique position of fighting an insurance company for the very life of my practice," Kaiser told his patients.

The National Heritage Insurance Company is insisting that the clinic pay \$126,931 by Monday, or agree to repay the amount, plus interest, over 12 months. Headquartered in Chico, Texas, the company administers Medicare billing in Northern California for the Health Care Financing Administration.

If Kaiser does not comply with its demands, National Heritage has said they will use their authority to immediately cut his clinic off from further Medicare reimbursements. Because the clinic receives half of its in-



Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi

come from Medicare, the program that reimburses hospitals and clinics for the treatment of the elderly and disabled poor, if these reimbursements are cut off, the Wellness Center will be forced to close.

Kaiser has rallied considerable support from local politicians, as well as his patients, all of whom are applying pressure to try to keep the clinic open.

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors is expected to vote on January 31 in favor of a resolution from Supervisor Tom Ammanno urging HCFA to allow the clinic to continue to receive Medicare payments while its appeal is under consideration. And Representative Nancy Pelosi (D-San Francisco) has written several letters to HCFA requesting a review of the matter.

"We were trying to make the case for the people who receive treatment at the Wellness Center. Regardless of the [resolution of the appeal], we want the patients to get the care they need," Pelosi told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "Taking care of the people is the top priority."

"This is a travesty," said David Nemhard, 42, a Wellness Center patient who was diagnosed with AIDS in 1988, and qualified for Medicare in 1993. "I'm going to the curb over this. Where am I going to get my care? Where's another doctor who knows my case? Before the Wellness Center closes, I will go down there and take my records."

The Wellness Center's dilemma is not unusual, as HCFA and its contractors have de-

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## New parole hearing ordered for Rosenkrantz

by Ed Walsh

A gay Southern California man imprisoned 15 years ago for killing his basher is a small step closer to parole but his new chance for freedom still faces a very formidable obstacle: Governor Gray Davis. Last Thursday, January 20, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Kathryn Ann Stoltz ordered a new parole hearing for Robert Rosenkrantz. The order requires the Board of Prison Terms hold a parole hearing within 60 days.

Stoltz first ordered Rosenkrantz paroled last March but her order was blocked by Davis who has vowed to stop the parole of all convicted murderers. Rosenkrantz was convicted of second-degree murder in 1985 after shooting Steve Redman outside Redman's Malibu condominium.

Rosenkrantz has drawn strong support from two Northern California lawmakers, Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco) and state Senator John Vasconcellos (D-Santa Clara).

"He seems like the perfect candidate for parole," Migden told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "He's served his time. He's a young man who can still live a good life."

Rosenkrantz, now 32, was 18 when he shot his former schoolmate, Steve Redman. The shooting ended a chain of events that began when Redman, along with Rosenkrantz's younger brother, burst into a high school graduation party hosted by Rosenkrantz, called him a "faggot," clubbed him with a flashlight, and shot him with a stun gun. Redman continued his attack by exposing Rosenkrantz's homosexuality to his father who threw his son out of the house. Rosenkrantz testified he was despondent and living out of his car when he bought an Uzi,



Robert Rosenkrantz is expecting a hearing.

confronted Redman, and demanded Redman retract his outing. Redman refused, the two argued, and Rosenkrantz shot and killed him.

Migden said she first became involved with the Rosenkrantz case two or three years ago when she was contacted by his family. She has written letters and has talked with the parole department on his behalf.

As chairman of the Senate's Public Safety Committee, Vasconcellos also has followed the Rosenkrantz case for several years. His chief of staff, Rand Martin, told the *B.A.R.* that Vasconcellos has intervened with the parole board on Rosenkrantz's behalf and strongly opposed Davis blocking his parole.

Southern California Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica) wrote several letters to Davis on Rosenkrantz's behalf after she was contacted by his parents who live in her San Fernando Valley district. Kuehl told the *B.A.R.* the governor responded by saying Rosenkrantz had not yet completed the 17 years of his 17 years to life sentence. "I wrote back asking if I could hold out a candle of hope that he could be paroled after 17 years, but the governor never responded," Kuehl said.

Rosenkrantz's parole hearing will be conducted by the Board of Prison Terms whose members are appointed by Davis. If the board votes Rosenkrantz is suitable for parole, his freedom could still be blocked by Davis.

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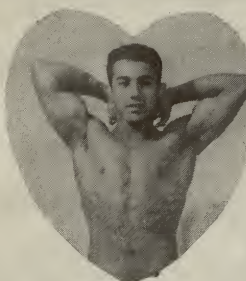
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Management

# Forum emphasizes harm reduction in use of ecstasy

by Mark Mardon

A standing-room-only crowd packed the San Francisco Medical Society's front rooms last Thursday, January 20, for a public forum on ecstasy, or MDMA, a synthetic recreational drug that has returned once more to the media limelight because of its renewed popularity among ravers and clubbers in the Bay Area, reflecting a worldwide trend.

The audience, made up of a diverse cross section of citizens ranging from medical and mental health professionals to rave promoters and nightclub owners, listened with rapt attention as experts on MDMA discussed the history of the drug, its properties, the facts and fallacies regarding its effects, and ways to prevent harm in its use.

Though ecstasy was outlawed by the Drug Enforcement Administration in the mid-1980s, and a conviction for possession can carry a long prison sentence, its widespread use persists. Members of the panel, including scientists, medical doctors, and specialists in harm reduction for recreational drug users, insisted claims about the drug's dangers have been greatly exaggerated and its substantial benefits brushed aside. They deplore the fact that greedy sellers "pollute" the drug with toxic additives, causing unfortunate incidents misattributed to

ecstasy. In its pure form, they said, ecstasy can be used safely by most people, with notable exceptions including those treating HIV/AIDS with protease inhibitors.

Ecstasy/MDMA is not to be confused with the sedative-hypnotic GHB (gamma hydroxy butyrate), another — albeit less popular — club drug

Ann, who since the early 1960s have investigated and extolled the therapeutic benefits — and limitations — of MDMA. The two gray-haired eminences explained that unlike "magic mushrooms" and LSD, two other popular party drugs, MDMA is not psychedelic, but rather belongs to the family of drugs called "entactogens," which literally means "touching within."

Originally used by psychologists and therapists as a therapeutic tool, MDMA is an "acute antidepressant" that produces a relaxed, euphoric state and feelings of empathy with others.

Therapists lost a valuable tool when MDMA was made illegal, the Shulgans lamented.

Ecstasy/MDMA works by triggering the release of serotonin in the brain. Once the serotonin supply has been depleted (say, after a full night of raving and a couple hits of E), the drug has no further effect, and cannot until the body replenishes the serotonin supply, which takes weeks, though some users take an amino acid called 5-Hydroxy-Tryptophan to spur faster production of new serotonin.

Too often, the panelists said, the police and press erroneously report people suffering ill effects from ecstasy, when the real culprit is most likely additives such as methamphetamines (speed), PCP (especially prevalent in Canada), and DXM, an opiate-like ingredient in some cough syrups. They noted that heroin is not among the pollutants, as it costs more than MDMA.

How to tell when ecstasy is pure or not in order to avoid ingesting unwanted substances is a principal goal of harm reduction, said Emmanuel Sferios, founder and national director of DanceSafe, a Berkeley-based nonprofit organization promoting health and safety within the rave and nightclub community. The organization, which maintains extensive information on recreational drugs on its website, DanceSafe.org, sends volunteers to raves and clubs, where they are able to offer information about ecstasy and other drugs, and in some cases they can test the purity of any ecstasy tablet. The organization makes testing kits available to the public through its website.

While all of the presenters made clear they believe ecstasy to be safe with proper use — and they strongly dismissed rumors that ecstasy could lead to eventual Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's or draining of the spinal fluid — they nonetheless were clear about the drug's potential dangers.

One clear health threat posed by ecstasy, the panelists agreed, was to those treating HIV/AIDS with protease inhibitors such as zidovudine. By preventing MDMA from being metabolized, or broken down, protease inhibitors can lead to dangerously high levels of

that in too-high doses can cause loss of consciousness, and is particularly dangerous when combined with alcohol.

The ecstasy forum was sponsored by the Lindesmith Center-West, a policy and research institute and public interest law center, based in San Francisco, dedicated to broadening debate on drug policy and related issues. Among the panelists were Dr. Jerome Beck and Marsha Rosenbaum, co-authors of *Pursuit of Ecstasy: The MDMA Experience* (1994), and Dr. Charles Grob of Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, who addressed concerns about neurotoxicity related to MDMA. Also present were the "godfather" and "godmother" of ecstasy, Dr. Alexander Shulgin and his wife,

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Let them eat brownies

## City okays medical marijuana ID cards

by Katie Szymanski

Get out that doctor's note and roll up a bluntie; medical marijuana identification cards are here.

In a 10-1 vote Monday, January 24, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved a citywide system of issuing cards to people and their caregivers who qualify for medical marijuana under California's Proposition 215. Board President Tom Ammann cast the lone "no" vote, stating his support for the concept but citing concerns about confidentiality.

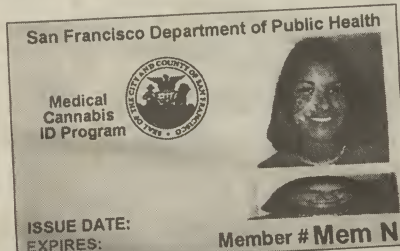
The cards, proposed by Supervisor Mark Leno, will come through the Department of Public Health and will feature a photograph of the eligible individual and a numeric code linked to the person's driver's license or pass-

port. The cards will serve as proof of a legitimate claim to medical marijuana, thereby allowing qualified street tokers and home growers to avoid unnecessary police harassment.

and carry – an ID card, rather than be one of the less privileged who cannot prove "validity."

To get your own license to stone, you'll need documentation of a medical need; this can theoretically be done through primary care providers in both private practices and public clinics. While the rest of the procedure has not yet been specified – and the program is not expected to be implemented for another few months – the general idea is that someone shows their medical proof to DPH, pays a fee, and gets a card.

San Francisco may be in for a classist drama where the card means more harassment for non-card-carrying citizens; or the city may indeed create a model where by all sick people can receive and use medical marijuana. Stay tuned as the system takes effect. ▽



A prototype of the medical marijuana ID card.

Although the system is voluntary, it has been suggested that those without cards may be more vulnerable to police investigation and run-ins with the law. Therefore, anyone who uses medical marijuana is advised to obtain –

# Pride clash continues

by Katie Szymanski

Four months after the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Celebration Committee's board of directors contested its own election, revamped its membership requirements, and decided to hold another vote for its officers, the committee for the city's largest annual parade found itself under scrutiny once again last week, with disgruntled members challenging the second election on the grounds that it, too, was unfair.

In a letter to the Pride board dated January 14, five members and former officers stated that the new election – which was supposed to rectify the mistakes of the first election last September – was flawed on the following grounds: the voting numbers didn't add up, the general membership was not informed of the lengths of the terms for each position, ballots were pre-printed despite the fact that nominations could still be taken from the floor, an employee of board President Calvin Gipson counted the ballots, election officials failed to take nominations of those not present, and Gipson repeatedly told the membership during the January 11 election that "this meeting was rehearsed."



Pride board President Calvin Gipson

While Gipson at first told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he did not plan to investigate the matter because it was "trivial," he then decided that the committee's lawyer – who advised the group to scrap its first election – should look into the complaint. Gipson maintains, however, that the small group of individuals is not indicative of the progress and spirit of the parade committee.

"Their challenge has no validity," said Gipson. "We're trying our best to do everything right and bring everyone together. Unfortunately there are those forces that feel like it's more important

to tear us apart."

Gipson then addressed every complaint in the letter, emphasizing that he and the board had "nothing to hide."

"We will hold a public recount, but the numbers weren't close enough; the same winners will come out ahead. We mailed out election rules to all the membership, where the terms of offices were clearly spelled out. We asked everyone to write in new candidates on their ballots. And as far as the election officer who counted the ballots, we both happen to work at Glide Memorial Church, but we do not work together, and I do not discuss pride politics with co-workers."

But rainbow flag creator Gilbert Baker, one of the letter's signers, told the B.A.R. that the election fraud ran even deeper, with members of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club being recruited to "vote out" those who supported Tom Ammann in last month's mayoral election. John Caldera, who was not re-elected, publicly supported Ammann and wrote several pieces against Mayor Willie Brown in the now-defunct gay newspaper *Spectrum*.

It was one of those columns, agreed Gipson, that pushed Caldera out of office, but not be-

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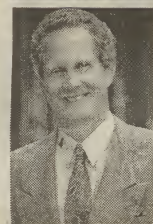
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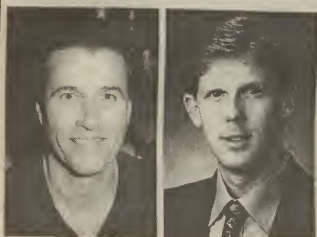
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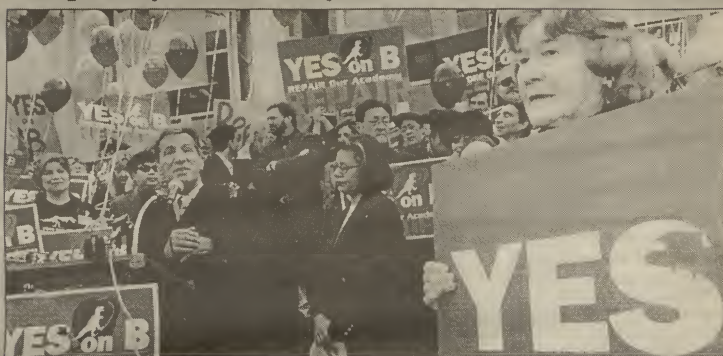
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## Repair, restore, retrofit



**B**oard of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano, speaking, and Treasurer Susan Leal were on hand at the January 22 campaign kickoff for Proposition B, an \$87 million bond measure on the March 7 ballot to retrofit and repair portions of the Academy of Sciences in Golden Gate Park. The Academy of Sciences is the Bay Area's premier natural science museum and houses Morrison Planetarium, Steinhart Aquarium, and the Natural History Museum. It was badly damaged in the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake.

# Roma Guy leads SF Health Commission

by Terry Beswick

**T**he San Francisco Health Commission elected Roma Guy on Tuesday, January 18 to serve a one-year term as its president.

Recently appointed by Mayor Willie Brown to a second four-year term on the seven-member volunteer panel that oversees the \$836.7 million Department of Public Health budget, Guy is the commission's first openly lesbian president.

Guy, 57, begins her term at a time of intense change in the health care arena locally and nationally. Escalating costs, the advent of managed care, cuts in federal funding, closures, mergers, divorces of hospitals and clinics, and increasing demands from the public for better care all point to a challenging tenure for the longtime community activist.

"We can do something in San Francisco. The first thing we have to do is tell the public the truth," said Guy.



Roma Guy

The greatest challenge facing San Francisco, according to Guy, is how to provide universal health care for all San Franciscans.

"We need to really try to figure out how we are going to pay for the cost of what we call 'an unsponsored patient,'" she said, referring to patients with no private insurance or MediCal coverage.

"That is a very big deal for me."

Anyone familiar with Guy's work knows she means it when she says she plans to get things done.

"Roma is kind of an institution within herself with her work on homelessness, gay and lesbian issues, women's issues, and public health," said Ron Hill, the commission's other openly gay member. "She's been a pillar and leader in San Francisco for over 25 years."

"If you want to be a pro-active commissioner, or just attend the meetings, that's up to them," Guy told the *B.A.R.* "You can get just bogged down in what we call 'maintenance of effort.'"

In 1975, Guy was the founder of the Women's Building in San Francisco, and executive director of the Women's Foundation from 1981 to 1993.

Currently director of the Bay Area Homelessness Program, a consortium of 16 colleges and universities working to prevent and end homelessness, Guy is also a mayoral appointee to the Local

page 23 ►

## Dunlop takes the helm of Redevelopment Commission

by Katie Szymanski

**N**ewly elected president of the city's Redevelopment Commission, Mark Dunlop, a gay man with AIDS, wants to pull more gays and lesbians into the redevelopment process.

"I know it sounds funny," said Dunlop. "You don't really associate gays and lesbians with redevelopment, but not everybody knows what it involves, and how they can be helped by it."

The commission grants contracts worth millions of dollars to organizations and people embarking on redevelopment projects, and also oversees the distribution of Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS, or HOPWA, funds.

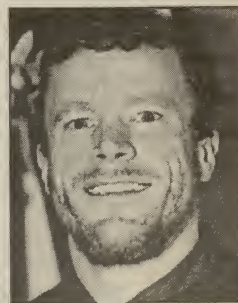
"We are the largest producers of affordable housing in the city," said Dunlop. "There are a lot of low-income lesbians and gays who would benefit from knowing

where and when housing was going up, and there are a lot of lesbian and gay contractors out there not participating in the process, either. So when we put out requests for a proposal, I want to make sure the community is involved."

Recent projects include the rebuilding of the Delta Hotel, which will be preserved as a single room occupancy residence, and collaborations with the city where money is donated to building housing in exchange for a guarantee that some of that housing will go to people with AIDS.

"We try not to designate people with AIDS to the ghettos," said Dunlop. "With HOPWA money, we can give 10 percent of our funding to a housing unit already in construction and then demand that 10 percent of those units go to PWAs."

Dunlop himself has been on disability for the past six years and believes it is important and significant that he can now help other people with AIDS. "With my offi-



Mark Dunlop

cial diagnosis, I was crushed," said Dunlop. "But instead of being the end, it became the beginning for me, a chance to prioritize my life."

One of those priorities was ensuring housing for people with AIDS; Dunlop served on the commission for two and a half years before becoming its president. He was appointed to the commission by Mayor Willie Brown.

"There is a lot that people with AIDS can do," said Dunlop. "Having this position validates that for me." ▼



## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Lobby Day to empower queer youth

by Katie Szymanski

Riding on the coattails of the victory of AB537 – the legislation that protects California students from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and/or gender identity – Queer Youth Lobby Day, held this Saturday, January 29, will aim to continue the mobilization of young, effective voices of change and implementation.

Sponsored by the Gay/Straight Alliance Network, "Queer Youth Lobby Day: Make It Real," is a free daylong event to educate lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth and their allies about the new law that protects their rights and safety. Signed by Governor Gray Davis last October, the Student Safety and Violence Prevention Act applies to all public schools and universities and

prohibits both discrimination and harassment as specified in the state's hate crime laws. This means that students can no longer be denied the right to form gay/straight alliances or be prohibited from challenging gender dress codes, and kids who are being harassed now have a way to fight back.

"Although the original form of the law, AB222, was defeated, it fell short in that it only focused on sexual orientation," said Robert Perez, an activist who worked on the legislation and who will be presenting at Lobby Day. "The law that was passed referenced hate crimes statutes for California, which means real or perceived gender identity is also covered. So the bill that passed, interestingly enough, actually went a lot farther than the original."

Designed to teach ways to respond in hostile school environments and ensure the law's enforce-



Alana Flores will speak at Queer Youth Lobby Day

ment, Lobby Day will feature a videotaped greeting from Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica), author of the law, and keynote speaker Alana Flores, a plaintiff in a pending lawsuit against a California school system that failed to stop pervasive anti-gay harassment. Lobby Day participants will in effect learn their rights and the ways and means of asserting them.

"We'll do role play exercises, and build a workable strategy for people to make their schools safe," said Perez.

Queer Youth Lobby Day is open to LGBTQ and straight-ally youth under the age of 23; allied adults may attend if accompanied by youth. The event will be held at Mission High School, 3750 18th Street, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information or to pre-register, visit [www.incite.org/qyld](http://www.incite.org/qyld), or call 1-800-246-PRIDE. Participants may also register at the school Saturday, starting at 9 a.m. ▼

## Health workshop tonight for transgender youth

by Katie Szymanski

Passing or crossing? Hormones or attitude? Different styles of gender transitions need different approaches to health care, and transgender youth under 25 are invited to discuss their needs and learn about their options at the first Transgender Youth Health Night tonight (Thursday, January 27).

The free event is sponsored by Dimensions, the queer youth health clinic at Castro-Mission Health Center, and takes place at the center from 5 to 8 p.m. Participants are invited to two workshops on transitioning; the first will focus on "passing" as your gender of choice, complete with makeup tips and packing instructions, and the second workshop

will concentrate on transitioning without transitioning, riding the line, and living as a different gender without hormones or surgery.

A community forum will follow, where youth will have the opportunity to "provide feedback on what kind of healthcare they want, and what their concerns are," according to Jessica Meyer of Health Initiatives for Youth.

Additionally, if anyone wants to access the center's health care services – including physicals, counseling, education, and case management – they may do so throughout the evening.

For more information on attending the free transgender youth health night, contact (415) 487-7532 or 1-800-246-PRIDE. Castro-Mission Health Center is located at 3850 17th Street. ▼

### Creative outlet for sexual assault survivors

Fearless Words, a free eight-week creative writing class for survivors of sexual assault, begins this Wednesday, February 2 at 7 p.m. in San Francisco. Sponsored by San Francisco Women Against Rape, the two-hour class will help survivors find their creative voices, develop their writing, and use these skills as a tool for healing. The course is made possible through funding by the San Francisco Arts Commission and is led by two professional writers. For more information, call (415) 861-2024, extension 370. ▼

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Terry Beswick  
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## Waiting for a friend

The lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community overwhelmingly supported Governor Gray Davis during his 1998 campaign; and he did come through last year by signing several pieces of legislation that benefit the LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities. In most cases we would have preferred more, but we realize that he governs from the center – an approach that engenders a certain level of impatience from LGBT activists and others – but we believe the state is generally in better shape now than it was under Davis's Republican predecessors.

That's not to say there are not significant challenges ahead. The biggest of those is Proposition 22 – the Knight initiative – on the March 7 primary ballot. And the governor's silence with regard to that proposed constitutional amendment is deafening.

Virtually every Democrat – and many Republicans – have come out against the Knight initiative. Just last week, Democratic Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante announced his opposition to the measure. But one notable exception is Assemblywoman Nell Soto, a Southern California Democrat and mother of an openly gay son. Soto is trying to justify her recent endorsement of the initiative and is attempting to garner support from other state Democratic leaders. Thankfully, they are not rallying to her side and she has been left to fend for herself.

We urgently call on Davis to announce his opposition to Proposition 22. When he was campaigning for governor, he stated that he was opposed to so-called wedge issues that divide Californians – recent examples being the hateful propositions targeting immigrants that were approved by voters. The Knight initiative is also a wedge issue: It's an unnecessary measure because the state already forbids same-sex marriages, and it seeks to pit citizens against each other with divisive anti-gay rhetoric. Already, the pro-Knight forces are airing Spanish-language television commercials aimed at California's large Latino population. Already, the Mormon and Catholic

churches are financially contributing to the Proposition 22 campaign as religious leaders of those denominations urge their congregants to vote for the measure. The Seventh-day Adventist Church has reportedly followed suit, asking its members to vote for the initiative.

Support against the Knight initiative has also grown, with many other religious, political, labor, and business leaders coming out against it, and not all of them are Democrats. Republican mayoral candidates in San Diego recently announced they are all opposed to the proposal, as did the current Republican mayor of that city. Republican Congressman Tom Campbell long ago issued his endorsement against Proposition 22.

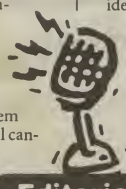
As important as all the No on Knight endorsements are, real political leadership means taking a position on critical issues of the day, and Davis should have come out

against the initiative months ago. He could have used an appearance at a gay-related event in San Francisco last September to make such an announcement. Instead, he stood by Mayor Willie Brown and Vice President Al Gore and couldn't even bring himself to use the word "gay."

Following that missed opportunity, Davis could have come out against the Knight initiative last October, when he signed the historic package of gay rights bills. But it didn't happen then either. In both instances, Davis was surrounded by powerful gay and lesbian leaders as well as influential straight allies. These were perfect opportunities for the governor to denounce the most anti-gay ballot measure in more than 10 years.

Now, with just over a month until the March 7 primary, it's imperative that Davis oppose Proposition 22.

We're waiting. ▼



Editorial



## Why can't marriage be civil?

by Mary K. Stroube

Whoever said there was separation of church and state in our government? It isn't so. Nowhere is it more obvious than in the current debate over the Knight initiative, Proposition 22 on the March 7 ballot that will limit marriage to a commitment between a man and a woman. Existing law already does the same thing, but apparently state Senator Pete Knight believes in overkill. He wants to go to the extent of actually amending the state Constitution to put restrictive language in it, knowing it will be that much harder to change should California voters ever decide to broaden their concept of marriage.

There's been much press recently over the internal dynamics in Knight's household: his son David is gay and his brother died of AIDS. His son has made public statements in opposition to the initiative and implied that the motivation is purely Senator Knight's inability to deal with the sexual orientation of his family members. Senator Knight denies this, but he has estranged himself from his son and of all the serious matters affecting this state, he picks this one issue to bring before the voters. It does make one wonder why this issue and why now?

California Family Code section 300 defines marriage as "... a personal relation arising out of a civil contract between a man and a woman, to which the consent of the parties capable of making that contract is necessary. Consent alone does not constitute marriage. Consent must be followed by the issuance of a license and solemnization..." The solemnization can be by a civil authority, such as a judge or justice of the peace, or by an ordained minister, priest, or rabbi. In fact, there are ways in which a person – any adult – can be appointed for a day

to have the authority to conduct a civil ceremony of marriage.

Various religious beliefs and denominations have imbued this civil contract with even greater significance and have attached certain restrictions and expectations to this relationship, but those beliefs are above and beyond what the law provides. Marriage under the law means that two individuals, traditionally a man and a woman, "... contract toward each other obligations of mutual respect, fidelity, and support." (Family Code §720) That's it. There's nothing about religion, nothing about having or raising a family, nothing about procreation, nothing else. Since when did marriage become a religious issue which is supposed to be reflected in our laws? Marriage is a civil contract.

All of the rights and responsibilities that flow from marriage come from the legal commitment under the law, not from any church or denomination. Rights such as financial support, tax benefits, medical choices, inheritance and the like all flow from the legal act of marriage.

If marriage is a contract – and under the law that's all it is – then what is the purpose, other than the imposition of religious standards, of restricting a legal contract to two people of the opposite gender?

The proponents of this initiative aren't only worried about preserving the concept of family, they are adamantly opposed to sharing any of the benefits of marriage. That is where the mean-spirited nature of this proposed amendment becomes apparent. This is an effort to make sure that a segment of our population – perhaps more than 10 percent – does not enjoy any of the benefits that go along with assuming the responsibilities of marriage.

If the proponents of this initiative are truly acting on the basis of their spiritual beliefs, then why not offer two options for marriage: a civil marriage conducted under the authority of a judge or magistrate that would allow two people, same sex or opposite sex, to enter into the contract allowed by law and a religious marriage conducted by a clergy person under the rules and tenets of the couples' faith, blessed by that spiritual group and with any added responsibilities to which the couple wishes to commit beyond those required in a civil marriage.

As it is, a number of people are married by a judge or magistrate or similar civil functionary because they do not believe in or feel the need for the inclusion of a religious dimension to their relationship. Why not offer this option to any two adults who wish to make the commitment created under the law? If a church does not wish to bless or sanction certain unions, then they would not be required to do so.

If some denominations or faiths choose to bless same-sex unions, then that could be done. In the process, no one is denied the right to enter into a contract to care for another human being.

The Knight initiative, however, is not about equal rights. It is about denying rights to certain members of society based upon the religious beliefs of some, not even all, of our population. The Knight initiative is unfair. It is anti-equality. It is wrong. ▼

Mary K. Stroube is an attorney in private practice in Woodland, California, where she works primarily with therapists and mental health agencies on legal and ethical issues.



Guest Opinion



## LETTERS

## 'Marriage' and 'marriage' is equal

Robert V. Wood says he hopes the Vermont Legislature will grant domestic partnership benefits to same-sex couples [Mailstrom, January 13]. He argues that the idea of "marriage" and "same-sex marriage" would be "separate but equal." He has it backwards. The concepts of "marriage" and "domestic partnership" are what is separate but equal. Civil marriage would be the same for either heterosexual or same-sex couples. "Marriage" and "marriage" is equal.

The difference is that religious institutions could still refuse to perform marriages for same sex couples. Freedom of religion is protected in the First Amendment.

Vote "No" on Proposition 22.

Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon  
San Francisco

## Clarifications on medical marijuana study

We appreciate the story about our efforts to complete our study of short-term effects of marijuana in HIV-positive people. ["Twelve people needed to complete medical marijuana study," January 13.] The study has been open since 1998 (not 1988). While this is one of the first studies to evaluate marijuana in the context of medicinal use, the primary goal of the study is to establish whether or not marijuana is safe for people with HIV. This is an important step toward establishing whether it can be used as medicine. The study is also looking at trends in how marijuana affects weight, body composition, appetite, and other factors, which can then be studied more thoroughly if safety is established.

It is certainly our hope that completing this study will provide us with important data in advancing the debate on medical marijuana and we thank you for helping to disseminate this information which will help us enroll the final subjects we need.

Donald Abrams, MD, Principal Investigator  
Ron Leiser, RN, Study Coordinator  
University of California, San Francisco

## No third party candidates in debates

The criteria for inclusion in the 2000 presidential debates announced on January 6 by the Commission on Presidential Debates may unfairly exclude candidates with a serious chance to win.

The commission, made up entirely of Democrats and Republicans, has decreed that a third party candidate must demonstrate 15 percent support in polls to be included. Such a high threshold could lock out someone with a realistic chance for victory.

For example, Reform Party Governor Jesse Ventura was polling at 10 percent in Minnesota in September 1998, before being invited to the debates. Ventura went on to win in November with 37 percent of the vote.

As the election of Ventura demonstrated, debates can change the outcome of an election. That's why the debates commission should offer voters a broad spectrum of legitimate candidates - instead of acting as king maker for their Democratic and Republican bosses.

Excluding third party candidates will also drive down voter turnout. The decision to include Ross Perot in 1992, who was polling at just 7 percent when he was invited, boosted turnout by 12 million from the previous election.

What could be more unfair than debate rules that shut out the next potential president? What could be more unwise in a democracy than encouraging millions of voters to stay home?

Inviting every candidate on enough state ballots to have a mathematical chance of winning would probably result in just six candidates on stage - hardly enough to "confuse" voters.

Americans who want fair debates should write to: The Commission on Presidential Debates, 1200 New Hampshire Avenue NW, Suite 445, Washington, D.C. 20036.

Starchild  
San Francisco

## Chilling thought

When the Fort Worth chapter of the ACLU investigated complaints of censorship and anti-minority hate in user profiles on America Online, AOL's news search engine failed to find a single reference to this nationally-reported story. (See <http://www.wired-strategies.com/profile.htm>.)

Our public posts in AOL discussion groups seeking information from others censored by AOL resulted in my AOL account being canceled for "commercial solicitation." AOL's "community action team" told me that I could not receive copies of my own customer records, and I was hung up on.

The thought of AOL chairman Steve Case in charge of Time magazine and CNN is indeed chilling.

Frank Provasek, President  
American Civil Liberties Union  
Fort Worth, Texas Chapter

## The true victims

I read your article "As the Castro turns" [January 13]. I have personal experience with Mr. McKeever dating back to the late 1980s. At the time, my lover and I had a very nice but illegal in-law in Noe Valley. Glenn-Allen was a "friend" of our landlord's handyman (Richard) who convinced our landlord to let Glenn-Allen move in with him at another property on 22nd Street. Glenn-Allen lived there with Richard for awhile and my partner and Glenn-Allen became friends (we were friends with both our landlord and the handyman). My partner invited Glenn-Allen over to dinner and once Glenn-Allen saw our place he contacted our landlord and told him unless he evicted us and let him and his dog "Brisbee" move in he would turn us in to the city. Of course our landlord told him no and Glenn-Allen did indeed turn us in to the city. Our lives became a nightmare. Glenn-Allen phoned the city inspector's office daily to ensure the city didn't drop the ball. He even attended all the hearings. Our landlord ended up in jail for contempt of court because he wouldn't evict us and tear out the unit. Glenn-Allen phoned our landlord's wife and told her he was having affairs with her friends, he was showing up at our apartment at all hours banging on our door yelling he would see us out in the streets. Glenn-

Allen also threatened our lives and his roommate's. He phoned me one day and told me he just bought bullets for his gun and was going to kill us in our sleep. I actually took the gun away from him and threw it in the ocean. The city ended up condemning the building and we lost the apartment. Glenn-Allen sued our landlord as well as most of the ones who have been unfortunate enough to rent to him.

Your article portrays Mr. McKeever as a victim of two well off gay men who live in a community he has helped to make safe for homos. Mr. McKeever is a menace to society both gay and straight. He has lived off the system and by suing people who were his "friends" for the last 20 years. The two men he currently lives with are the true victims in this situation.

Cory Fergus  
Address withheld

## A waste of space?

As a friend of Dan Andrade and Mark Chapman, (subjects of "As the Castro turns" in the January 13 issue of the B.A.R.), I read with interest the piece by Katie Szymanski. Ms. Szymanski leaves her position in the matter early in the article when she makes reference to Mr. Andrade's and Mr. Chapman's "fortune". Ms. Szymanski leaves no doubt that she feels anyone who works hard and saves enough money to purchase a home is, by default, evil and uncaring. Messrs. Andrade and Chapman have no fortune and are neither evil nor uncaring. The facts are simple, Dan and Mark purchased their home in 1994. With the house came Mr. McKeever, living in a room which had been converted by the previous owners into an illegal in-law apartment. Over the next five years, Dan and Mark worked hard to transform their house into a home for themselves and comfortable and inviting place for their friends. In the process, two things became clear. They were breaking the law by renting the in-law space that had come with the house and they did not wish to continue to have someone, not part of their extended "family", living in a room in their home. Mr. McKeever was given notice of their intention to make their home legal and secure more than three months ago. It is unfortunate that Mr. McKeever decided to attack Dan's and Mark's integrity and make wild accusations about why they were asking him to move. He chose to do this rather than accept their offers of assistance. It even more unfortunate that the B.A.R. devoted over 20 inches of newspaper space to this unworthy story when matters of real concern to gays and lesbians go under-reported.

Oakley Stephens  
San Francisco

Szymanski responds: I'm not homeown-phobic. Some of my best friends are homeowners.

## About those military showers

The "showers" column by Dale Carpenter [January 13] certainly tells the feeling of most gay members of the military and thanks to Dale and the B.A.R. for keeping alert on the issue.

After serving over 19 years in the Navy, (I would have served more if I hadn't been caught up in a witch hunt, not in the shower), I got in the shower and got out with dispatch. This lack of lingering has been also verified by many gay veterans whom I have talked to over the years. No one has tunnel vision in the shower, but gawking wasn't the gay man's pursuit there. If the truth be known, the heterosexual was the one who always later critiqued the shower room. They could, and did, expose the size, whether negative or positive, of others in the shower. It seems to be a very common obsession among all males.

If and when gays and lesbians are allowed to serve

next page ►

## AN EARTH-BASED APPROACH TO PSYCHOLOGICAL &amp; SPIRITUAL HEALING



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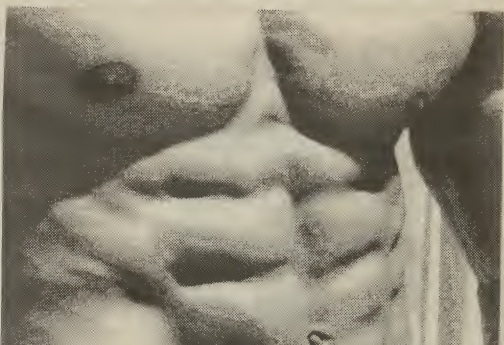
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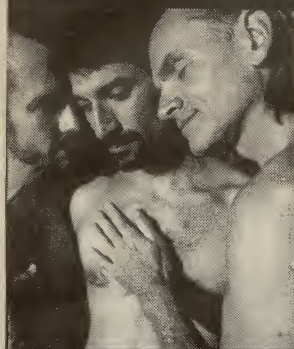
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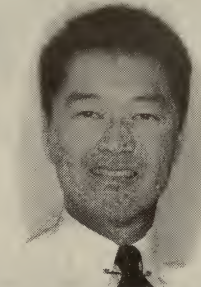
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## Mailstrom

◀ previous page

openly, the presence of open gays will not be as obvious as the proponents of "no gays" seem to cry wolf about. Just like in the real world, most gays are not "out" on the job. To most, there is no concern to be out. Even though many are out, this too, will evolve in the military as time goes by.

My feeling about gays in the military coming out is reflected in the letter I wrote in 1992 about lifting the ban, to then President-elect Bill Clinton: "The reported fear that the military hierarchy has been broadcasting that the Armed Forces will suffer irreparable damage if the ban is lifted, is totally without foundation. You will not hear the explosion of a Mardi Gras type coming out by the homosexual members of the service. The only sound that you will hear is a sigh of relief by the gay and lesbian members of the service, now that their private life is protected by the President of the United States."

Of course, like many other issues, time will soften the blow of this required and necessary equality. It's the right thing to do.

Chuck Schoen  
Nice, California

### A very minor problem

Dale Carpenter, in his commentary, "Gays in the military showers" [January 13] approaches a valid viewpoint about what is really going on when macho military men object so strenuously to the idea of gay men in the services. I think, however, that he goes astray toward the end of his column when he suggests that the shower problem would be caused by openly gay men hitting on straight guys. This is a very minor problem compared to the much larger minority of straight-identified men who are terrified that being around gay men will blow their own cover. Whether that cover is a desire to top a gay man or a secret attraction to other men or even a suspicion of being attracted, these men haven't come to terms with their own sexuality. They don't want the presence of openly gay men to trigger the need to examine themselves and their attitudes. Further, it is clear that these self-doubting Thomases' attempt to handle their problem by attacking the known or suspected gays. Their belief is that if they attack in others what they fear in themselves, no one will suspect their own motives. Since most of their fellow "men" have the same belief system, no one questions the motivation for their hyper-hateful behavior.

Fifty years ago, Harry Truman had the courage to force the integration of blacks into the armed forces in spite of the rabid belief of a minority of white soldiers that they could not fight side by side with blacks. Now, we have the same situation with respect to the attitudes of self-identified "straight" men about gay men. Through ignorance from never having worked with self-identified gay men, these "straight" men don't know that sexual preference has no more impact on behavior of soldiers on the battlefield than does the color of those soldiers' skin.

Ralphe Wiggins  
San Francisco

### Museum's tree removal plan

The Randall Museum overlooking the Upper Market and Castro districts from Corona Heights - not to mention half of eastern San Francisco - is planning some serious tree removal. A bank of cypress, pine, and eucalyptus fronting the museum, and dominating the view both from and to the museum from close and miles away, is to be felled. A need to build a handicapped access approach has grown to a plan for decks and a lawn to replace many of the existing trees and parking spaces. This in turn has generated more trees sacrificed for new parking.

It is an ambitious undertaking and has so far been presented as a low-impact "improvement." Only at this late stage, when a single design is being waved before the few neighbors and interested others who have learned about it, is the scope of this major landscape alteration becoming clear. No environmental impact report has been prepared, no serious design oversight - or alternate plan - has been considered. This is a project that has matured away from public view.

That must change, and there is little time for it to do so. Proposals are at the bid and contract stage now. People need to contact everyone who can slow this down until the whole community can be heard from.

Lewis Ellingham  
San Francisco

### KTVU's youth shelter coverage

Those of you who can sit through a mainstream news program without trying to throw a brick at the television should understand a few facts about the queer youth homeless shelter that was reported about by Channel 2 [KTVU] the night of January 18. These facts are important and must be taken into consideration with an objective mind. Not once did the reporter mention that the shelter was for queer kids,

that is, kids who've likely been kicked out of their homes due to bigoted parents. It didn't mention how many kids this program would cover (10; that's barely a handful). It was said that the money spent for the program would be used to build a shelter. That is just a plain lie. In fact, the shelter (the church) already exists. The news program didn't mention that the shelter was temporary, lasting only three months. The program did mention a petition against the youth shelter signed by 500 neighbors and business owners. The program, however, did not mention the overwhelming support of the other Noe Valley neighbors who signed petitions in support of the shelter. Ms. Gracie Atherton was given ample airtime to explain her biases rationally, though those of us who have seen her in action could paint a different picture of her. The Reverend Jim Mitulski was given maybe a sentence worth of time.

It's these omissions that are typical of the biased and unprofessional nature of the mainstream press. One last thing: The program also failed to mention that on the day of the newscast, the church was issued a building code violation notice with an order for repairs costing thousands of dollars. This comes one day after the victory for the shelter. Uncanny isn't it that this building inspection occurs at a time when the church of the proposed shelter is embroiled in such controversy. Anyone can probably guess which type of well-connected Noe Valleyite has a friend in City Hall. Don't be too surprised though, this kind of vindictiveness and retaliatory meanness is just keeping in spirit with the amoral character of the individuals opposed to helping the poor.

Kevin Weaver  
San Francisco

### Call to action over Dr. Laura

Infamous bigot Dr. Laura Schlessinger will all too soon have her television show debut on KPIX-TV, Channel 5 in San Francisco, the local CBS affiliate. Dr. Laura, as her right-wing fans affectionately call her, is a rabid - and I mean rabid - homophobe. As well, she is an intolerant religious snob; she has repeatedly labeled Wicca as not a religion.

She made waves when she tried to have nude photographs of her when she was younger banned; a judge ruled that she could not do so. However, she regularly rails against healthy sexuality in any form, but notably against liberated women and gay folks. Although it is understood that people can change as they mature, her behavior reeks of hypocrisy. More specific information about Dr. Laura can be found online at [http://extra.newsguy.com/~satire/faq.html#\(4.12\)](http://extra.newsguy.com/~satire/faq.html#(4.12)).

Because her radio show has hurt untold numbers of young lesbians and gay men, and because her television show will only broaden her destructive reach, I am issuing a call to boycott her sponsors and to place pressure on CBS and its local affiliates to not allow this woman to defame gay people or those of different religious beliefs. Although she has a constitutional right to free speech, she has behaved in a most un-American fashion by denigrating those who are different from her and those who she has deemed to be immoral - lesbians and gay men. It is well-known that popular TV shows - remember Rush Limbaugh? - have considerable appeal to those who have extreme political views, tending to reinforce negative beliefs about groups that are socially and politically peripheralized. I also know - personal experience here - that some rural lesbian teenager or some gay boy will be harmed by her inflammatory hatred of anything that is different from her.

It truly hurts - deep down, long-lasting pain - to be told that you are a fundamentally evil, flawed, and bad person. Many of us carry those wounds and will do so for the rest of our lives. Shall we not stop this from happening to others?

Call to action: 1) Boycott Priceline.com ([www.priceline.com](http://www.priceline.com)). Use another online service, otherwise, use a local travel representative. Other online options include Travelocity at [www.travelocity.com](http://www.travelocity.com) or American Express' travel service at [www.americanexpress.com](http://www.americanexpress.com). 2) Write Priceline.com and let them know that they have lost your business. Try to estimate the dollar value of your business that they have lost and tell them why it has been lost: they sponsor Dr. Laura's TV program and she is hurting and defaming people with her irresponsible, bigoted talk against gays and others. 3) Contact your local CBS affiliate and tell them why you want her hate speech curtailed. The Federal Communications Commission has a standard relating to responsibility to the community, so we can exert pressure locally if we make our voices known. Although e-mail is easier, written letters and faxes are the most effective way to make your point, with phone calls next, then e-mail. Write KPIX Channel 5 at 855 Battery Street, San Francisco, CA 94111-1597, call (415) 362-5550, or fax (415) 765-8994. E-mail KPIX at [tvprogramming@kpix.com](mailto:tvprogramming@kpix.com). 4) Send copies of your letters to local papers. 5) Tell your friends.

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Rev. James C. Lovette-Black  
San Francisco



## POLITICS

# Where Bill Bradley stands on gay issues

by Wayne Friday

**B**efore the March 7 presidential primary election, this column will attempt to let you know where the leading presidential candidates – Democrat and Republican alike – stand on the major issues pertaining to the gay community. Though I have not personally interviewed former New Jersey Senator **Bill Bradley**, I have spoken with gays and lesbians working on his behalf and his campaign provided his positions on a number of issues. A statement issued by the candidate and released by his campaign included the following Bradley remarks: "Discrimination weakens us all; the kind of hatred that leads to everyday abuse and culminates in violence like the murder of **Matthew Shepard** in Wyoming – and many gay people before him – is a crime against every American. It is a crime against our belief that diversity strengthens us, against our tolerance for those who are different, and against our fundamental value that as a society we value every individual, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, disability, or sexual orientation. We will not move forward as a nation unless we first realize the potential of each individual American. That means valuing each person for what he or she is, and that will be a fundamental principle of a Bradley presidency."

As for the issue of gays in the military, Bradley recognizes that gay men and lesbians have always served in the military and says that it is time for them to serve "openly and proudly."

"It's just common sense that if gay Americans can be police officers, nuclear scientists, bricklayers, football players, doctors, and lawyers, then they can also be sergeants and generals," Bradley stated.

The former senator says the current "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy is a failed one and clearly prefers a policy that would allow gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military without fear of discrimination or harassment.

Regarding protection from discrimination, Bradley says he is committed to ending discrimination against gays and lesbians in housing, employment, and public accommodations by including sexual orientation in the 1964 Civil Rights Act; Bradley claims he is the only presidential candidate to take this "bold" stand and challenges the other candidates to do likewise.

While in the Senate, Bradley co-sponsored the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which prohibits job discrimination against homosexuals and supports extending to committed gay and lesbian couples the economic benefits enjoyed by married heterosexual couples. It should be noted, however, that as a senator, Bradley voted for the unfriendly Defense of Marriage Act and was widely criticized by gay activists in his home state of New Jersey. Like his opponent, Vice President **Al Gore**, Bradley strongly opposes the anti-gay Knight initiative (Proposition 22) that Californians will decide on March 7.



Bill Bradley campaigned at The Blazing Saddle, a Des Moines gay bar, prior to Monday's Iowa caucus, with San Francisco gay activist Jeff Ward, a Bradley supporter.

Bradley proposes a new healthcare plan that will make affordable health insurance available to all families, regardless of their composition, and let all Americans deduct the cost of insurance from their taxes.

Bradley is adamant that those with HIV should not be artificially and inhumanely excluded from this care. The Bradley healthcare plan would double support for community health centers and continue full funding of the Ryan White CARE Act for both

treatment and supportive services. Indeed, Bradley co-sponsored the CARE Act which, of course, awards grants to eligible metropolitan areas to improve the quality and availability of care for people living with HIV/AIDS.

For updates on these and other issues, the Bradley campaign can be reached on the Internet at [www.billbradley.com](http://www.billbradley.com).

Incidentally, while gays reportedly account for about 6 percent of the Democratic vote in California, Bradley is in a real battle for their support.

## Politics and people

One of the more interesting (and high-spending) campaigns for supervisor this year could be in the 2nd District, if, as rumored, former mayoral candidate **Clint Reilly** decides to take on Supervisor **Gavin Newsom**.

In a rare show of unity, the four leading Republican candidates for mayor of San Diego, plus the current GOP mayor, held a press conference last week on the City Hall steps to denounce Proposition 22, the anti-gay Knight initiative appearing on the March 7 ballot.

As though she doesn't already have few enough friends in the Capitol, the *Sacramento Bee* ran this interesting tidbit about not-too-popular state Controller **Kathleen Connell**: "The controller's office is buzzing about a recent big meeting that kept managers huddled until 1 a.m.; participants say Connell told them to try

harder to identify her accomplishments that can be featured in press releases. As the late meeting dragged on, folks grew hungry. Connell rode to the rescue by ordering pizzas. The next day bleary-eyed managers (employees) were asked to chip in for what they thought was the boss' pizza treat. Never accuse Connell of trying to buy loyalty with pepperoni."

GOP presidential front-runners: Most gay and lesbian Republicans I know are convinced that Arizona Senator **John McCain** is the most pro-gay (that may be a reach, but at least he's not a homophobic pig like the others) of the GOP presidential hopefuls. Though in no way do I figure McCain to be "pro-gay," I would agree that he's the least anti-gay of the GOP bunch, or at least seems to be. I would note, however, that when asked recently if he knew of any gay officers serving with him in the U.S. Navy, McCain said, yes, he knew certain fellow Navy officers to be gay by their "behavior and attitudes," adding that "it's clear to some of us when some people have that lifestyle." In other words, McCain says he knows one when he sees one and that, at the very least, is more than **George W. Bush**, **Gary Bauer**, **Steve Forbes**, or **Orrin Hatch** would ever admit.

Vice President **Al Gore**, looking to California to "help carry me to victory in November," has named Governor **Davis** as the chair of his state campaign operation with Senators **Feinstein** and **Barbara Boxer** serving as co-chairs.

Gay power, gay politics – Of the six Gore delegates (three men and three women) elected to the national convention from San Francisco's heavily Democratic 8th Congressional District at last Sunday's caucus, five were from the gay and lesbian community: **Mark Leno**, **Susan Leal**, **Leslie Katz**, **Daniel Bernal**, and **Jack Gribbon**. At the Bradley caucus in San Francisco, Board of Supervisors President **Tom Ammiano** was the top vote-getter among delegates. Openly lesbian **Toni Young** was also elected and gay rights activist **Jeff Sheehy** was chosen as the alternate delegate. ▼

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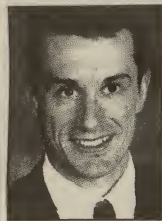
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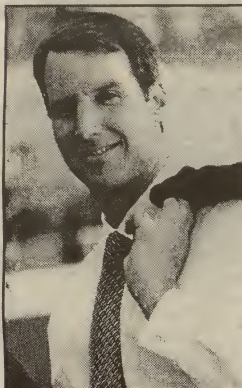


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# Some advice to gay conservatives

by Dale Carpenter

Like other gay conservatives, I spend a lot of time critiquing the gay left. Turnabout is fair play, so here's some advice to my gay conservative compatriots:

Come out. Years ago, when I was still substantially closeted, a straight friend observed that it's hard to change the world from a hiding place. He was right. All conscientious gay women and men should make coming out a top priority. But gay conservatives have an especially great obligation to do so. We know there's no gay lifestyle, no gay or "ungay" thought or idea. We must convince the rest of the world, including some gay people, of that. And we can't unless we're seen and heard.

Of course, there's some risk of rejection or career impairment in being visible. But one should be dedicated in life to something other than wealth or career. Otherwise, you may one day find yourself 60, rich, and empty.

Get involved. Conservatives, by disposition and ideology, are reluctant to be "activists." Unless it's got a hammer and sickle tattooed on its forehead, we tend to think it's benign or just foolish, and hence disregard it. But the truth is, if you're gay in America today you're something less than a full citizen, even if you drive a Mercedes and drink 25-year-old port. It will take work, our work, to change things.

Join political and civic organizations. Write to newspapers and magazines when you read something wrong or offensive. Engage the gay left and the religious right in debate. And don't quit at the first sign of trouble or resistance. Don't whine. Lots of my conservative gay friends say they hate

going to Pride parades and other gay events because everybody there is in drag or leather thongs and tit clamps. They also lament the dominance of the left in gay organizations. They say that such people represent only a small fraction of all gays and that this distorts the picture the rest of the country gets of us.

They're right that the parades and the outlandish behavior and dress that often occur at them do not portray most gay lives, but gay conservatives are wrong to stay away. The antidote to the false impressions created by such events is not to stay home and disdainfully watch them on TV; the answer is for us to go ourselves. The answer is to ensure that at such events, and in gay organizations and media, we are present to provide a necessary corrective. We cannot blame anyone else — cer-

tainly not those on the margins of our community — for misrepresenting gay life. By our silence and our absence, we have allowed that false picture to be painted.

Tolerate difference. While we're on the subject, this is probably a good time to remind ourselves that not all gays, not even all gay conservatives, wear suits and ties and act like proper ladies and gen-

tle men. We should be striving to secure equality for all gays, including those who dress and behave differently from the mainstream. We can still criticize theatrical excesses, like public nudity, and we can still condemn real moral wrongs, like pedophilia. But we will have to respect the right of others to craft their own public image. It may not be the image we would choose for ourselves, and we will want to counter it with more representative depictions of gay life, but we must grasp that we are part of a diverse and colorful movement.

Focus on the real enemy. This I promise you: when the bullies are pummeling your bloodied body, the person standing between you and eternity will not likely be your Heritage Foundation debate partner. It will be that bull dyke with a

**But the truth is, if you're gay  
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nose ring who thinks a single-payer health-care system is really cool.

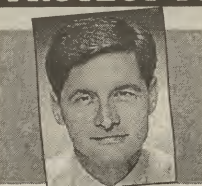
Even taking into account the stifling effect of high taxes, counterproductive social welfare programs, crime, and the encroachment of "hate speech" regulations, the most organized threat to our civil rights today comes from the religious right. A gay leftist may think you're overbearing or self-righteous, may call you names and grossly misunderstand you at times, but I've yet to hear one ask the state to lock you up under the rubric of a sodomy law. So let's try to keep our squabbles with the gay left in perspective. When you get frustrated, remember this line from an old movie: they may be racist but they're on our side of the bread.

Educate. Many, though by no means all, gay political leaders and writers have only a dim view of what gay conservatives stand for. That fact is disappointing, but it is a measure of how much work we must do. Yet the animosity and suspicion with which the gay political establishment views us is partly understandable: the only people they've ever known as "conservatives" told them they were immoral, unnatural, or worse.

We must painstakingly correct their impressions of us and fill in the large gaps in their understanding of our ideas. And we must emphasize again and again that we stand with, not against, them in the pursuit of equality for gays. ▼

Dale Carpenter, an attorney, is the winner of three Vice Versa awards for excellence in gay writing. He can be reached care of this publication or at [OutRight@aol.com](mailto:OutRight@aol.com). For more Outright, visit [www.planetout.com](http://www.planetout.com).

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## MEDIA ALERT

# Military picks and pans at the L.A. Times

compiled by GLAAD

Recent editorial pages of the *Los Angeles Times* show just how mixed the representations and reactions to issues concerning lesbians and gay men can be, even in the same media outlet. The issue in this instance is lesbians and gay men serving openly in the U.S. military.

The January 11 issue contained an editorial column by contributing editor Robert Scheer. In "Gore's Right: Don't Ask, Don't Expel," referring to Vice President Al Gore's comment and later retraction that he would want to know in advance if anyone he appointed to the Joint Chiefs of Staff would support his position of allowing lesbians and gay men to serve openly, Scheer shows the fallacy of the military's discrimination by writing about Tom Dooley and Malcolm S. Forbes. Dooley was a Navy doctor honored in the 1950s and early 1960s for outstanding dedication and job performance in South Vietnam by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Giovanni Cardinal Montini (who became Pope Paul VI), the University of Notre Dame, and the South Vietnamese government. He was also gay and his career and life were ruined by investigations into his private life and sexual orientation. Forbes was a World War II military hero, serving in the Army and awarded a Bronze Star and Purple Heart. Scheer sums the whole issue up succinctly, writing: "Dooley and the elder Forbes — and there are undoubtedly many others — demonstrate that gays are fully capable of observing military discipline and performing with valor and honor. It is denigrating to their memories to deny that one can be both gay and a military hero. It is also to deny the truth: Homosexuals distinguish themselves in every aspect of American life, and it's time they be allowed to enjoy the full measure of their citizenship in this society."

Two days after this worthy editorial, the January 13 issue carried a not-so-worthy editorial cartoon by Michael Ramirez concerning the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. A gate guard at an Army base is shown thinking "Don't Ask, Don't Ask, Don't Ask," as he looks wide-eyed at a soldier sitting in a jeep with his arm around a sheep in a couple-like fashion. While a certain amount of leeway must be afforded satirical cartoons, this callous connecting of homosexuality and bestiality is beyond that leeway and crosses the line to defamation of a category of people. The stereotyping is blatant and reinforces lesbian and gay enlisted personnel as objects of contempt rather than as equal soldiers.

Please contact the *Los Angeles Times* and let it know while you appreciate its inclusion of Scheer's article affirming the need for equal treatment, stress that better judgment must be used to exclude editorial cartoons that dehumanize and malign.

Contact: Janet Clayton, Editorial Page Editor, *Los Angeles Times*, Times Mirror Square, Los

Angeles, CA 90053; fax: (213) 237-4712; e-mail janet.clayton@latimes.com.

## Front-page news: Gay straight clubs

The January 18 issue of *USA Today* featured a front-page article about burgeoning high school clubs for lesbian, gay and accepting straight students. Such clubs have gone from less than 100 two years ago to more than 600 today. The sizable article, "Gay students stake their ground," covers the current climate, including schools that have allowed such clubs, ones that have not, and the legal battles that have ensued. It also focuses on the recent activity

at El Modena High in Orange, California, where the formation of a Gay Straight Alliance was blocked by the school board. The students have sued in federal court for violation of the Equal Access Act.

Writer John Ritter provides a balanced article, quoting sources on both sides of the issue. More importantly, he gives the students themselves a voice to explain why they want such clubs, how they often do not feel safe at school and what types of harassment

they experience. Included is a chart provided by the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network that breaks down frequency and type of harassment. The chart's data are powerful arguments as to why lesbian and gay students need protection and desire clubs to help them fit in.

Please thank *USA Today* for running this story and giving it such a prominent position (front page with a picture, a half-page jump to page two with another picture, a chart and a map). The more positive exposure this issue receives, the more chances there are for lesbian and gay students around the nation to succeed in getting what they need and deserve to have in their schools.

Contact: Karen Jurgensen, Editor, *USA Today*, 1000 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22209-3901; fax: (703) 247-3100; e-mail: kjurgensen@usatoday.com. ▼

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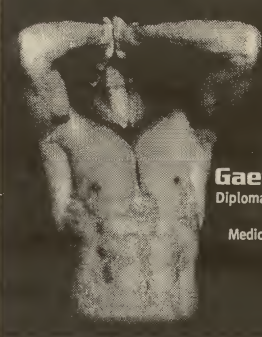
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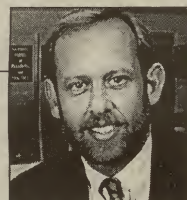
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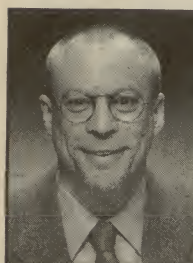
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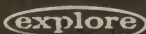
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# Slick moves

by Jane Warner  
and Ron McGlashan

**T**he Cafe, 2367 Market, January 16, 10:50 p.m.: The doorman received complaints that a man on the dance floor was trying to take wallets. Watching the suspect, the doorman noticed him talking to a woman who was wearing a shoulder purse. The man bumped her several times, blaming it on the passing crowd, and then, with his arm out of the sleeve of his jacket, reached over and took the woman's wallet from her purse. The woman did not realize she was pickpocketed, and the man ran to the door with the doorman close behind. Door personnel detained him until police arrived. The woman's wallet was found in his pants. Booked for theft from a person was Larry Walker, 50.

## Hide and seek

The Edge, 4149 18th Street,  
January 18, 1:30 a.m.: Two men

laid their leather jackets across a bar stool. A woman asked if she could sit on top of them. The men told her it was okay and went to talk to some friends who were across the bar. When they returned, the woman and the jackets were gone. The suspect is described as a white female, 35 years old, 5 feet 2 inches tall, weighing 120 pounds, with blond hair, and wearing a black dress.



## Crime & Punishment

## Sour grapes

The Bar on Castro, 456 Castro, January 16, 10 p.m.: A drunk man came into the bar and he was told to leave by the owner, he became violent, punching at him, kicking the glass doors, and calling him homophobic names. The bar owner pushed him outside, where police found him calling passerby "faggots." Booked for assault with hate crime enhancement was Stephen Riggs, 43.

## Drug run

Walgreens, 498 Castro, January 18, 6 a.m.: A man caught stealing

several items resisted arrest. The manager called 911, and a unit in the neighborhood found the suspect as he ran out of the store. Officers chased the man to Collingwood and wrestled him to arrest. Booked for resisting arrest and petty theft was James Palms, 42.

## Gymmied

24 hour Fitness, 538 Castro, January 15, 6:30 a.m.: Police responded to an alarm and found clothes strewn about the sidewalk in front of the store. A check of the premises found that the window above the door was the point of entry for the suspect, who was no longer on the premises. An unknown amount of merchandise was taken. No suspects are known. ▼

This column is brought to you as a public service of the SFPD Office of Public Affairs and the men and women of the SFPD who protect and serve you. For information call the office at (415) 553-1651, or Ron at (415) 776-9399. The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 679-1827.

## Ecstasy

◀ page 2

MDMA in a person's bloodstream. One death from this drug combination has been confirmed.

Another danger is posed by combining MDMA with monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs), a class of prescription antidepressants including Nardil, Parnate, and Marplan.

However, as the DanceSafe website makes clear, it appears no danger is posed by combining

MDMA with another class of antidepressants, "selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors" (SSRIs) such as Prozac and Zoloft. In fact, laboratory research on animals suggests that Prozac ameliorates some of the potential negative effects of temporary serotonin depletion caused by MDMA. In humans, this depletion can lead to temporary depression and possible minor short-term memory impairment. According to DanceSafe, "Taking a Prozac a few hours after your ecstasy may well afford some protection against neuro-

toxicity."

Those with epilepsy or otherwise prone to seizures are advised not to use MDMA, as it could trigger seizures.

Perhaps the biggest concern for most recreational users of ecstasy, the panelists made clear, is the possibility of dehydration and overheating from dancing for hours on ecstasy in a crowded, sweaty space. MDMA inhibits the body's thermoregulatory ability, meaning its ability to maintain a normal temperature. DanceSafe's Sferios and the other panelists recommend users drink two to four cups of water per hour, and take regular breathers, preferably in a convenient chill space.

During the session's question and answer period, it was noted by audience members that some club owners, in order to prevent patrons from getting "free" water, turn off the faucets in their bathrooms. This practice could endanger people's lives, some observed, and they urged club owners to avoid problems by making water and fresh fruit readily available.

Unfortunately, alcohol and ecstasy make a bad combination, everyone agreed, because alcohol adds to dehydration. In fact, most ecstasy users avoid alcohol, which is why the drug is less popular in commercial nightclubs where alcohol is served (and bottled water priced high) than at the mostly illegal, underground raves, where most people drink only water and energizing fruit drinks. ▼

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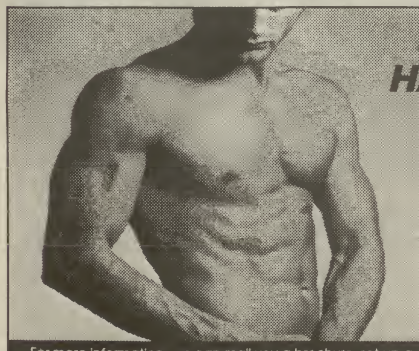
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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# TG youth murdered in San Jose

by Katie Szymanski

When San Jose police discovered a strangled naked male body in the trunk of a car last Wednesday, January 19, they knew they had a probable murder case against the vehicle's owner, 21-year-old Scott Santino. But what they did not know—and what they still seem reluctant to understand, according to those in the San Jose gay community—is that the body they found is actually that of a transgender woman, making the case a potential hate crime.

Santino is being held without bail on suspicion of murder.

Staff members of the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center said the victim—a transgender youth named Alina—was a regular volunteer at the center and a member of the on-site youth group.

"She was very personable. Everybody liked her," Barbara Jones, executive director of the DeFrank Center, told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Jones said that she and others from the center met with police on January 25 to inform the department of Alina's gender status and to express concern that her murder was a hate crime. But the meeting did not get them very far. "They clearly didn't under-

stand the issues of concern we had in terms of classifying this as a hate crime, because they just didn't get the transgender piece of it. It wasn't useful information to them because they found a naked male body; Alina had no persona at that point."

Jones said that ruling out a hate crime—which she fears the police department may do—would be a big mistake.

The center's assumption is that Alina went home with the suspect, and when the suspect discovered she wasn't biologically female, he strangled her.

"In terms of motivation of the crime, that transgender piece really had to enter into it. So we're asking police to respond to that information as part of the case," said Jones.

As the B.A.R. went to press, San Jose police had still not reached an official decision as to whether the case would be investigated as a hate crime, but one officer told the paper, "I'm confident that if there is a hate crime com-

ponent, we will address that."

San Jose police found Alina's body in Santino's 1981 Cadillac after receiving a tip from the suspect's friend. Police told the *San Jose Mercury News* that Santino met the victim at a bar and invited "him" home, but that once they arrived, a struggle broke out between the two. Alina's death marks San Jose's third homicide of the new year, and the second homicide in less than a month involving a body in a car trunk. ▼

The DeFrank Center will hold a community grieving process tonight (Thursday, January 27) at 6:30 p.m. at 938 The Alameda, San Jose. For more information, call (408) 293-2429.

## AIDS forum for men of color this Friday

by Terry Beswick

Black men who have sex with men are five times as likely to be infected with HIV as their white counterparts. And gay and bisexual men of color now account for more new AIDS cases than among white gays, according to a report released earlier this month from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

But the talk is expected to go beyond the raw numbers and into "what's really going down" at a free community forum on HIV/AIDS for the African American community this Friday, January 28 from 8 to 10 p.m. at the Bayview Opera House at 4705 Third Street at Oakdale Avenue.

"The Color of AIDS: A Community Talks," sponsored by the San Francisco Black Coalition on AIDS, the Names Project, and the

Stop AIDS Project, will feature a panel including Pat Norman, executive director of the Institute for Community Health Outreach, Byron Mason of the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, and community member Yolanda Kidd.

Organizers say the forum will be "a great opportunity for community members who are feeling anxiety or have questions about their own risk and to hear what other men and women from all segments of the community are thinking and doing."

While men and women of all ages and sexual orientations are welcome at the event, gay and bisexual men are especially encouraged to attend. ▼

For more information, call Marvin White at the Stop AIDS Project at (415) 575-0150, ext. 273.

## GAPA chorus celebrates 10 years, concert Saturday

by Cynthia Laird

The Gay Asian Pacific Alliance kicks off the new year with a special program honoring a decade of achievement by the GAPA Men's Chorus. "Jubilee!" a full-length concert highlighted by the premiere of original music pieces, will be presented this Saturday, January 29, at the ODC Theater in San Francisco. Also featuring the GAPA Dance Company, Jubilee's spotlight shines on GAPA's cultural programs and the community is invited to share in

the celebration.

The GAPA Men's Chorus celebrated its 10th anniversary last August. Perhaps the first ethnically based gay choral group, but certainly the longest-lasting and most enduring organization of its kind, the GAPA Men's Chorus was formed to provide a showcase for the vocal music talents of gay and bisexual Asian Pacific men. Its varied and multilingual repertoire includes songs in Mandarin, Vietnamese, Korean, Tagalog, Japanese, Indonesian, Hawaiian, Latin, French, Spanish, Italian, and Eng-

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## Imperial Court gala Friday

by Terry Beswick

The Imperial Court of San Francisco, now in its 35th year, will hold its annual "Imperial Gala and Formal Presentation of Candidates" this Friday, January 28 at the Holiday Inn Golden Gateway. Doors open at 7 p.m., and the grand festivities begin at 8.

Friday's gala will begin with the "walk of the Imperial Family," in which various princes and princesses, dauphins, lords and ladies, and of course past Emper-

ors and Empresses will parade down the aisle in full regalia.

Mr. and Miss Gay San Francisco, Mr. San Francisco Leather, and the Grand Duke and Duchess are also expected to appear at the event.

Originally started by the Tavern Guild Foundation "to cut down on the prejudice experienced by lesbian and gay people" in the bars and streets of the city, the Imperial Court has rallied around its figureheads from the beginning, said Absolute Empress XXX Donna Sachet, co-chair of the Imperial

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BAY AREA REPORTER

## U.S. health master plan includes gays

by Bob Roehr

**G**ays and lesbians are included for the first time in "Healthy People 2010," the U.S. government's blueprint for health services over the next decade. Donna Shalala, secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), officially released it Tuesday, January 25.

But inclusion wasn't a foregone conclusion. Gays and lesbians were virtually ignored in the initial draft of the massive 800-plus page document when it came out in December 1998. The word "gay" was used twice, while "lesbian" and "transgender" did not appear at all, according to an analysis by the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association.

Fred Fox, then GLMA's policy director, was "shocked" that "we have virtually no place at the table" in a document whose goal is "eliminating health disparities, primarily among racial and ethnic minorities."

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender health advocates flooded the department with over 400 suggestions on the draft document during the period for public comment. That prompted a unit of HHS, the Health Resources and Services Administration, to commission a report from GLMA and Columbia University.

That document, "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Health: Findings and Concerns" also was released on January 25.

The report is a superb state-of-the-art summary of LGBT health issues, clearly organized into 50 pages of lucid writing and references to a massive bibliography for more detailed information.

"Because of negative attitudes prevalent in the U.S. public as well as among physicians and other medical staff, LGBT individuals are subject to discrimination and bias in medical encounters," the report stated.

"Even well-meaning physicians may make assumptions about gays or lesbians that make them reluctant to return for treatment," said Dr. Darren Carter, who chairs the GLMA policy board. "Or those assumptions may actually be dangerous."

"For example, we know that many doctors treating lesbians believe that a pap smear test is not necessary because lesbians are not engaged in heterosexual intercourse," Carter said this report "provides needed evidence that this practice can be dangerous to lesbians' health."

Other major problems include the very limited amount of research that has been conducted into LGBT issues, and methodological problems of identifying who is LGBT. Both contribute to

an unclear picture of the nature and scope of problem, let alone remedies for them.

Patricia Dunn, GLMA's current policy director, said that HHS "added more references to LGBT health issues in the next draft" of Healthy People 2010. She hopes that the final version, scheduled for publication this summer, will be even better.

"We should be way beyond where we are in terms of our issues getting discussed in these various reports," said Dunn. "It's a little frightening to think what might be next" with another administration. She linked it to a broader context where too many people "don't even think that we should be able to have committed, sanctioned relationships."

Dunn called GLMA's "Findings and Concerns" document "a way to point out what research there is" on LGBT health issues, and "to help make the case that more research needs to be done." She is optimistic that HRSA will fund creation of "a companion document" to Healthy People 2010 "that lays out specific objectives for LGBT health" research and service programs.

That was supposed to be the purpose of a report on lesbian health issues issued last January by the prestigious Institute of Medicine. But the floodgates of funding on lesbian health issues



GLMA's Patricia Dunn

have not exactly sprung open. Instead, there will be a conference in March to identify which federal agencies need to conduct what lesbian-specific studies and which broader studies need to include questions that identify lesbians.

"Hopefully [federal agencies] will take the recommendations seriously," said Dunn. But she acknowledged that GLMA and other advocates are going to have to "start advocating for their funding. It's a sad state, there is a lot of work that needs to be done." That is one reason why the organization, which is based in San Francisco, plans to increase its Washington presence. ▼

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Health: Findings and Concerns** is available from the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association at [www.glma.org](http://www.glma.org) or by calling (415) 255-4547



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There were no homeless people outside Ben & Jerry's last Saturday.

## Licking the Haunted

Author sues Ben & Jerry's for attracting homeless

by Katie Szymanski

**I**f chain store mentality were a crime, Arthur Evans might agree that Ben, Jerry, and all their Vermont cows should be locked behind bars. As it stands, though, the longtime Haight-Ashbury resident will have to resort to a civil suit against the ice cream conglomerate, charging the store outside his home with negligence for encouraging "drunks and drug dealers ... who hang out on front of the business" and acting like "all the other chain stores" in its disregard for the neighbors.

Evans, a local writer who has authored the books, *The God of Ecstasy* and *Witchcraft and the Gay Counterculture*, is suing Ben & Jerry's for \$5,000 in small claims court for the disruption caused to his personal and professional life as a result of the kinds of people allowed to gather in front of the ice cream shop.

"The area in front of Ben & Jerry's is the epicenter for the problems on Haight Street," according to Evans. "The street people there push drugs in everybody's face, drop used needles and condoms on the sidewalk, pound

page 21 ►



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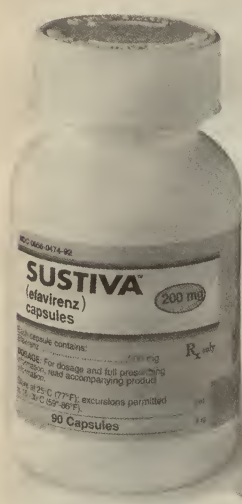
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† Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Panel on Clinical Practices for Treatment of HIV infection, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), May 1999.

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for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Infection  
Generic name: efavirenz (eh-FAH-vih-rehnz)

Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

### What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

### How does SUSTIVA work?

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

### Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

### Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

### How should I take SUSTIVA?

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

### Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

### Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

### What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA (efavirenz)
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

### What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. Rarely, patients have more serious side effects that may affect mood or ability to think clearly. These side effects occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness or substance abuse. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

### What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

### Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.
- Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA:\*\*

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA:\*\*

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

### How should I keep SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

### How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com>.

**This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.**

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Wilmington, DE 19880  
Issued September, 1998



## COMMUNITY NEWS

# AEF starts breast cancer fund

by Terry Beswick

**S**an Francisco's 18-year-old AIDS Emergency Fund, which provides financial assistance to low-income people with AIDS, has announced that it will expand its mission this year to accommodate a client population with a life-threatening disease other than AIDS.

"We are going to provide assistance to women with breast cancer," said Peter Fiske, who was recently elected president of AEF's board of directors. "It is so important to us because the women's community is important to us."

AEF has several grant applications pending that if approved would support the fund, and is appealing for donations from individuals. Depending on the level of support the new project receives, AEF hopes to begin issuing grants to women with breast cancer in about six months. None of AEF's HIV/AIDS funds will be affected by the new breast cancer initiative, and the idea was supported by attendees at a community meeting in 1998.

Since its founding in 1982, the nonprofit—like hundreds of other community groups formed during the early years of the AIDS crisis—has maintained an exclusive focus on HIV/AIDS.

But when the lover of a former board president was diagnosed with breast cancer, the nonprofit began working on creating a new fund to provide grants to women with breast cancer.

"We are very enthusiastic about getting this started," said former president Rick Salinas, who has been involved with AEF for 17 years. "I've always felt that we owe the lesbian community a great deal because of all the hard work they did in the early days of the epidemic. It's also a way of letting people know that there's more to life than AIDS."

Last year, 2,873 low-income people with disabling HIV and

AIDS in the Bay Area received \$600 grants from AEF to pay rent, utilities, medical costs, and other urgent expenses. The organization has distributed a total of about \$13.5 million to its clients.

"People apply for a grant, and present us their bills which we then pay," said Fiske, adding that 70 to 75 percent of AEF's clients use the funds to pay rent.

To qualify for the grants, applicants must present a letter of diagnosis from their physician, and evidence that they make less than \$1,456 a month, the maximum income from state disability insurance.

Other than the breast cancer initiative, Fiske said that during his one-year term as president, the nonprofit group would stick to the basics.

"We're continuing with our mission, which is to provide direct financial assistance with low overhead," Fiske told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "We will continue to be volunteer-powered and community-based."

According to Fiske, AEF spends about 85 percent of its annual income on grants to their clients, 10 percent on overhead and salaries, and the remaining 5 percent on office expenses.

AEF has only four paid staff members, but benefits from the work of over 200 volunteers. And rather than pay for an expensive executive director, Fiske says AEF's volunteer "working board" serves to oversee the organization's programs, as well as fundraising.

Also elected as officers of AEF's board on January 11 were Ralph Petersen as vice president, and Roger Gregg as secretary, while David Jensen will serve another term as treasurer.

Former president Salinas, who Fiske noted had done "an excellent job in 1999," said he will remain on the board for "at least another year."

Fiske also noted that the board is currently seeking new mem-



AEF President Peter Fiske

bers, particularly women and people of color. Currently, he said, there is only one woman on the 10-person board, and the sole person of color recently resigned.

AEF receives about half of its \$1.5 million annual budget from federal Ryan White CARE Act funds, with the remainder coming from foundation grants, bequests, and community fundraising, such as the AIDS Walk, Macy's Passport, and the leather and Imperial Court communities.

AEF's "Every Penny Counts" campaign raised about \$125,000 last year with donation jars placed in bars, stores, and other businesses throughout the Bay Area.

In addition to foundation grants, Fiske said he hopes that the gay and lesbian communities rally to support the new breast cancer fund with individual donations. The size of the grants available to low-income women with breast cancer will depend on the amount of donations received in the coming months.

"We may have to start at \$300 instead of \$600," Fiske said. ▼

To make a donation to the new fund, write "breast cancer" on a check or money order made out to the AIDS Emergency Fund, and mail to 1540 Market Street, Suite 320, San Francisco, CA 94110. To inquire about AEF's services, call (415) 558-6999.

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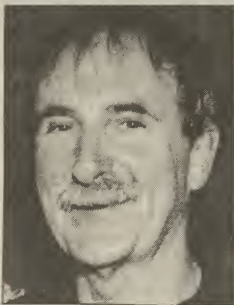
## Project Open Hand expands services to people with critical illnesses

by Cynthia Laird

**P**roject Open Hand, which for years has provided home-delivered meals and groceries to people living with AIDS, has announced it will expand its program to include others who are homebound with any serious illness.

A community meeting on the proposal is scheduled for this Wednesday, February 2 at Project Open Hand's Polk Street office.

Tom Nolan, executive director, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the agency has experimented with a pilot project that has served over 125 clients and that the changes are in keeping with the agency's mission to serve those in need. He also emphasized that Project Open Hand's current services to people living with HIV/AIDS and seniors will not be affected or disrupted. The agency took over the senior meal program from the Salvation Army after that organization refused to comply with the



Project Open Hand's Tom Nolan

city's equal benefits ordinance.

"In fact, we believe that expanding to serve a broader base of people will help to bring in new volunteer and donor support, thereby providing even more support to our current programs," Nolan said.

A formal announcement of the new program is set for Valentine's Day.

"Since our founding, we have been aware that people suffering from serious illnesses other than HIV/AIDS have limited support services," Nolan said. That led to the idea for expanded service.

Last year Project Open Hand reevaluated its eligibility criteria for people with HIV/AIDS and while there was some criticism, the transition has gone well. Nolan said there likely will be some adjustments to the eligibility criteria changes.

Nolan said that the pilot project served clients experiencing a variety of illnesses and conditions, including heart disease, various forms of cancer, and severe arthritis. "We also have provided meals for people recovering from broken bones, post-surgical complications, and cancer patients going through chemotherapy," he added. ▼

The February 2 community meeting starts at 6 p.m. at 730 Polk Street.

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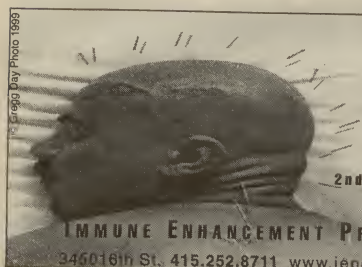
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# Survival rates for HIV/HCV co-infection 25% of HCV alone

The latest on how to improve those odds

by Brian D. Klein, ACT UP/  
Golden Gate Writers Pool

An accelerated rate of hepatitis C (HCV) progression occurs in people co-infected with both HIV and HCV viruses compared to those living with HCV alone. One European study of 547 patients with HCV showed that among the 431 who were HIV-negative, the average time to development of cirrhosis (nonfunctioning scar tissue) was 23.2 years; for the 116 HIV-positive individuals, the average time to cirrhosis was 6.9 years. Co-infected individuals also run an increased risk of developing liver cancer and liver decompensation. Many co-infected individuals are surviving HIV only to die due to HCV complications. These complications are the leading reason for liver transplants. With approximately 40 percent of people living with HIV co-infected with HCV, it is important to know that new information is now emerging to better understand and treat co-infection and to increase survival.

Research from the University of California, San Francisco indicates that when an individual with HIV has a CD4 rate <200 cells/mcl, HCV is able to mutate more easily. It gets around the defenses of the weakened immune system and evolves new quasiespecies (variants) that can survive and multiply, leading to further disease progression. Other research shows that older age and greater consumption of alcohol also lead to increased fibrosis (early scarring which can lead to cirrhosis) in co-infected individuals.

Progress has been made at the University of Pittsburgh regarding liver transplants in a few co-

infected individuals. These people were far along in their HCV disease, but early enough in HIV progression to survive both the surgery and the immune suppressing drugs needed for recovery. Funding for this work largely has been due to the work of community activists.

Only a year ago, researchers were debating which disease to treat first—HIV or HCV. People with HIV have higher HCV viral loads than those with HCV alone.

Most research suggests that HCV does not affect HIV viral loads or CD4 counts. The consensus is growing that, other things being equal, it is best to get HIV stabilized first, then treat HCV if serious liver disease is seen.

Some HIV medications such as protease inhibitors, most notably ritonavir and, to a lesser extent, indinavir, are toxic to the liver. Co-infected individuals tend to be more sensitive to this toxicity. Most research shows that co-infected individuals see increased liver enzyme levels for up to several months after beginning HIV treatment. Most can ride it out and tolerate a regimen containing one of the less hepatotoxic PIs. There is evidence that people using a PI tend to slow the rate of liver fibrosis. The reason for this bonus has not yet been explained. If another combination is needed, different non-protease containing combinations can be used, using current HIV treatment guidelines and always looking for combinations likely to be easiest on the liver.

The only way doctors can tell the extent of liver disease is by liver biopsy. Unlike in the common blood tests for HIV, common HCV blood tests such as viral load and liver enzyme levels (ALT, AST) do not correlate with

disease progression. A liver biopsy is an outpatient procedure. The doctor inserts a needle to take a tiny sample of liver tissue. It is actually easier and less painful than it sounds. If the patient does not have any liver inflammation or fibrosis, and all liver enzymes are in normal ranges, just monitoring your status and waiting for better treatments is one viable option to discuss with your doctor.

Studies have examined the response of co-infected individuals to interferon therapy, an immune system modulator, that is the most common treatment for HCV. Interferon is usually self-injected under the skin three times a week. Results have universally shown that getting a "sustained response" (maintenance of HCV viral load below the level of detection six months after treatment has ended) is more difficult for co-infected people than for singly HCV-infected individuals. CD4 counts can drop significantly during interferon therapy, so this treatment is not recommended for individuals with CD4 counts below 200. Other co-factors that challenge response to treatment include: increased age, increased alcohol use, higher baseline viral load, genotype 1a or 1b (the most common variants of HCV in the U.S.), being male, and being African American. It is not known why African Americans respond more poorly to HCV treatments than other ethnic groups. Higher doses of interferon and/or daily dosing increase sustained response rates, but usually no more than 28 percent of those studied with genotypes 1a or 1b. results are somewhat better for other genotypes.

"The true goal of therapy is to reduce the rate of liver fibrosis progression—this may be accomplished even without reducing the HCV viral load—some patients who have a virologic response to treatment even have regression of fibrosis. The fibrosis progression rate is for HCV what the CD4 count is for HIV infection," said Dr. Thierry Poynard, a leading hepatitis researcher.

A healthcare provider who knows HIV really well doesn't necessarily know HCV. And vice versa. It is important for co-infected individuals to have doctors with expertise in each disease and urge them to talk to each other to coordinate their medical care.

Research in co-infection is slower than for either HIV or HCV alone, as drug companies look to make sure their new treatments work in the least complicated populations first. Patient and treatment advocates need to urge healthcare providers, public health officials, and local drug company representatives to work for more clinical studies and access to treatments for people living with HIV/HCV co-infection. ▼

Brian D. Klein, MA, LMSW, is with the Hepatitis C Action & Advocacy Coalition



ACT UP

## ACTION Update

### HCV clinical trials in Northern California

Quest Medical Group, Dr. Jay Lalezari, (415) 353-0800, HIV/HCV Co-infection trials

Stanford University Hospital, Lucinda Porter (650) 498-4866

UCSF Medical Center, Lin Maslow (415) 502-6664

California Pacific Medical Center, Linda Brooks (415) 202-1504

VA Hospital-UCSF, Karen Cohen/Linda Fuhrman, (415) 750-2105

### Upcoming events and resources

Conant Foundation Community Forum "Review of 7th National Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections," Thursday, February 17, 6-8:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Palace Hotel, 2 New Montgomery, San Francisco.

HIVandHepatitis.com. Current information on viral hepatitis and HIV/AIDS.

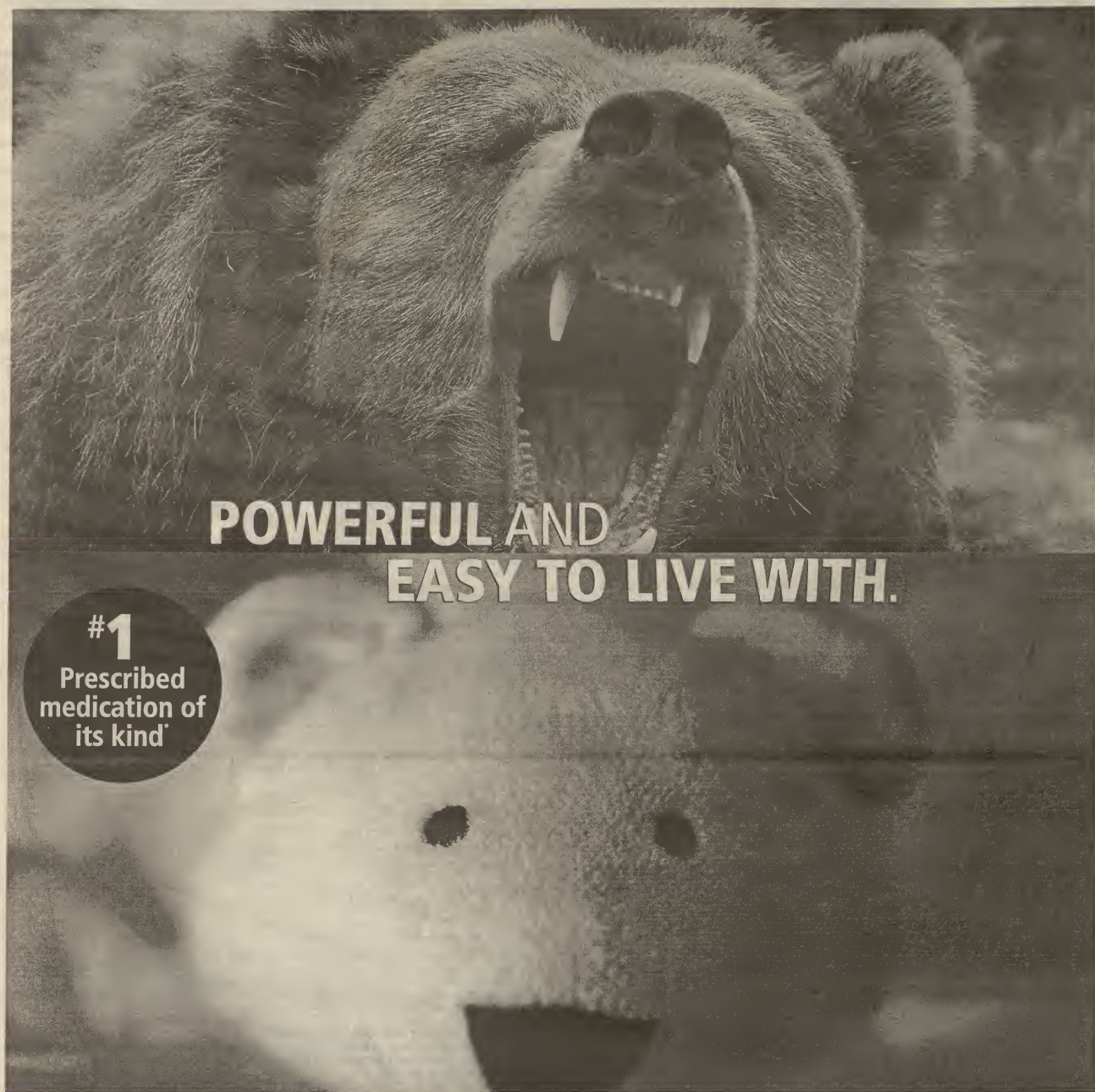
Project Inform Hotline 800-822-7422 or www.projinf.org.

Hepatitis C Support Project and HCV Advocate. Support and informational groups and monthly HCV newsletter. In San Francisco call (415) 587-8909 or sfhepcat@msn.com. In Marin call (415) 453-3622

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infection when anti-HIV drug therapy is warranted. It is not yet known whether taking VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that can occur with HIV. Some common medications and some

HIV related medications should not be taken with VIRACEPT. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus

and hyperglycemia, and with increased bleeding in patients with hemophilia.

Ask your doctor. For more information, call toll free **1-888-VIRACEPT** or visit

**www.agouron.com**. (Refer to the important information on the next page.)

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### For the Treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection

Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

#### WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. You should be aware, however, that the effect of VIRACEPT on HIV in the blood has not been correlated with long-term health benefits. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in their CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT is usually taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), Efavir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zert® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

#### DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of VIRACEPT are not known at this time. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

It is not known whether VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that may occur.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

#### WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

**Allergies:** If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

**If you are pregnant:** The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

**If you are breast-feeding:** You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

**Children:** VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

**If you have liver disease:** VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

**Other medical problems:** Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

#### CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

#### Drugs you should not take with VIRACEPT:

- Seldane® (terfenadine, for allergies)
- Hismanal® (astemizole, for allergies)
- Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)
- Cordaron® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
- Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglute®, Cardioquin®, Quinidex®, and others
- Ergot derivatives (Cafergot® and others, for migraine headache)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Versed® (midazolam)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

- Rifampin (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®

This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

#### Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with:

Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

#### A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

- Phenobarbital
  - Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
  - Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)
- These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.
- Oral contraceptives ("the pill")
- If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

#### HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

**Nucleoside analogues:** No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

- Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)
- Epivir (lamivudine, 3TC)
- Zerit (stavudine, d4T)
- Videx® (didanosine, ddI)

**If you are taking both Videx (ddI) and VIRACEPT:** Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

#### Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Viramune® (nevirapine)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be reduced. Studies are now taking place to learn about the safety of combining VIRACEPT with Viramune.

- Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

#### Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Norvir™ (ritonavir)
- The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Invirase® (saquinavir)
- The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. If used in combination with saquinavir hard gelatin capsules at 600 mg three times daily, no dose adjustments are needed. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

#### WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include abdominal pain, asthenia, nausea, flatulence, and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

#### HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. The light blue VIRACEPT Tablets should be taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. You do not have to take VIRACEPT exactly every 8 hours. Instead, you can take it at normal times when you are eating.

**Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor.** Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, **you should not miss any doses.** However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

#### Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

#### Dosing in children 2 through 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

#### Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily

Body Weight		Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons†	Number of Tablets		
Kg	Lb					
7	to < 8.5	15.5	to <18.5	4	1	-
8.5	to <10.5	18.5	to <23	5	1¼	-
10.5	to <12	23	to <26.5	6	1½	-
12	to <14	26.5	to <31	7	1¾	-
14	to <16	31	to <35	8	2	-
16	to <18	35	to <39.5	9	2¼	-
18	to <23	39.5	to <50.5	10	2½	2
	≥23		≥50.5	15	3¾	3

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

\* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: **A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder.** Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

#### How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

#### HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

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Issued 11/13/97

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## OBITUARIES

## OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste. If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

## Robert Stanley Finna



Born in Logan, West Virginia on August 14, 1928, our friend Bob passed away January 18, 2000 at the V.A. nursing home after having suffered a heart attack in early December.

Many people knew him as the white-haired gentleman with his trusted black Labrador "Boy" always by his side.

Bob grew up in Martens Ferry, Ohio, served four years in the Army,

graduated from Cleveland State College, and was an electrical engineer and a heavy machinery mechanic for many years. He was physically challenged by a severe stroke 16 years ago, but persevered and was an inspiration to all those who knew him.

Robert is survived by his loving sister Katherine Takacs of Akron, Ohio, his brother Jesse Finna of Canal Fulton, Ohio, and in San Francisco by Manuel Romero, Susan Shields, Carman Maciarello, Susan Miller, Ruby Bailey, Michael Green, and many other friends at Mercy Terrace where Bob lived for the past 14 years.

There will be a memorial gathering to honor Bob at Mercy Terrace, 333 Baker St. on Friday, January 28 at 1 p.m.

## Wellness Center

◀ page 1

manded hundreds of millions of dollars in repayments from clinics and hospitals throughout the country, as part of a crackdown on alleged overbilling and faulty documentation.

HCFA has directed its contractor, the National Heritage Insurance Company, not to speak with reporters about the case.

But an official with HCFA's regional office, who asked not to be identified, said that the Wellness Center had billed the agency for "Medicare non-covered services," giving as an example stress reduction treatment.

The center is the only hospital-based clinic in San Francisco that combines state-of-the-art medical care with "natural" therapies such as acupuncture, nutritional therapy, and stress reduction.

"We're not disputing that they're beneficial," said the HCFA official. But federal law governing Medicare reimbursement specifies that treatment must be "reasonable and necessary," and because HCFA regulations do not recognize the benefit of alternative treatments, the official said, the Wellness Center will have to pay back the reimbursements they

have received.

Kaiser disputes those charges.

"That is a non-issue in this case. We are not asking them to cover any alternative therapies. We never did and we never will," responded Kaiser. "And there was absolutely no mention of that in any of their documents. The only thing is that we spend more time with our patients because they are seriously ill and require special care. We never billed for alternative therapies."

According to Kaiser, the allegations of overbilling are based on the insurance company's audit of 30 of his patients. "These were among the sickest we take care of. Number one: they said we see them too often. Number two: they said the documentation in the patients' charts did not support us calling them 'complex visits,' allowing us to bill those visits at the level at which we did."

Although he acknowledged that the audited patients' charts noted that physicians may have recommended that patients consider alternative therapies, Kaiser claims that National Heritage and HCFA had no idea that his clinic offered alternative treatments prior to media reports this week.

Regardless, the HCFA official stated that the real holdup in the case has been Kaiser's refusal to file

a financial statement with National Heritage, so that the insurance company could determine whether the clinic would be capable of meeting a 12-month repayment plan.

But Kaiser openly admits that his clinic is losing money and simply can't make payments of \$15,000 a month, including interest. And when he offered earlier this month to file the requested financial statements and to make monthly payments of \$1,000 – if Medicare would continue reimbursements while an appeal of the alleged overbilling is considered – the insurance company declined.

"This is a smoke screen," Kaiser said. "If I filed a statement, that was the best they could give me. So what's the point?"

The Wellness Center's patients and other supporters held a rally and news conference at noon Wednesday at the Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco and some patients are starting a fund in an effort to keep the clinic open.

"I'm feeling so bad about it that I'm getting out of my sick bed and I am going to let them know this is not acceptable," said Nembar, adding that he is battling a case of the flu, as well as the stress of possibly losing the medical care he depends on for his survival. ▼

## Rosenkrantz

◀ page 1

Davis has come under widespread criticism for his rigid stance on parole. In a strongly worded editorial last October, the *Sacramento Bee* newspaper wrote: "A mindless parole policy that denies all mercy may provide good copy in a tough-on-crime TV ad

in some future presidential run, but it's wrong." A subsequent *Bee* editorial blasted Davis for blocking Rosenkrantz's parole.

In a letter to the *B.A.R.* last week, Rosenkrantz said when he gets a new parole date he plans to invite Migden, Kuehl, and Vasconcellos to attend the hearing.

Rosenkrantz has drawn a wide range of supporters who have recommended his parole, including the victim's grandmother and law enforcement officials.

Rosenkrantz has been by all accounts a model inmate at the California Men's Colony in San Luis Obispo. He's earned a college degree in prison and tutors other inmates.

"There's no one except Governor Davis who doesn't want him

paroled," said Rosenkrantz's attorney, Rowan Klein.

The Rosenkrantz case has become somewhat of a political hot potato for the governor. Davis's spokesman, Michael Bustamante, has not returned the *B.A.R.*'s calls and is now referring all calls on Rosenkrantz to the Youth and Adult Correctional Agency. That agency's spokesman, Steve Green, told the *B.A.R.* he's referring all calls on the Rosenkrantz case to the state attorney general's office. The attorney general's spokesman, Nathan Brankin, did not return the *B.A.R.*'s calls.

Governor Davis's public comment line is (916) 445-2841. He can be faxed at (916) 445-4633, or e-mailed at GrayDavis@governor.ca.gov. ▼

## Ben &amp; Jerry's

◀ page 14

on bongo drums, blast radios, urinate and defecate on the sidewalk, and harass passersby."

Even more important to Evans, some members of the crowd "follow me down the street screaming, 'Faggot' when I don't give them change." Evans told the *Bay Area Reporter* that this type of harassment goes way beyond loitering – which he believes people have the right to do – and affects the quality of life for Haight residents.

"You know, one argument for the queer youth shelter was that the kids needed their own space because of the homophobia of the homeless," said Evans. "Well, residents need to be protected from the homophobia of the homeless, too. We need to start addressing the

homophobia of people who live on the streets of San Francisco."

Using an argument out of context to generalize the "homophobia of the homeless" isn't exactly winning Evans any points; even a chain like Ben & Jerry's stated that "We try to be compassionate to everybody, be they our neighbors, our customers, or street people."

A trial before a judge in small claims court is scheduled for Monday, March 6 at 6:30 p.m. in room 506 at 400 McAllister Street, but Evans said he is still willing to negotiate.

"My aim is to improve the quality of life in the neighborhood," he said. "I'm not trying to make the neighborhood into Pacific Heights; I wouldn't want to live there. But all the other businesses along the street are doing their part to make the Haight livable. Ben & Jerry's is not pulling its weight." ▼



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# Beneath the planet of why I hate pro football

by Jim Provenzano

**P**ercentage of professional football players who have been arrested or convicted of serious crimes in 1996 and 1997: 21

Heterosexual role model hit list:

## 1991

**September:** An arrest warrant is issued for former NFL wide receiver Bobby Duckworth in connection with an alleged rape and assault near San Diego.

**November:** Safety Greg Cox of the San Francisco 49ers is charged with rape and false imprisonment in connection with an attack on a 21-year-old woman he met at a Monterey, California, diner.

**December:** Craig Heyward of the New Orleans Saints faces assault charges brought by two women.

## 1992

**December:** Lewis Billups, one of 20 Cincinnati Bengals, charged with the gang rape of a woman in 1990, is charged in Sanford, Florida with drugging and raping a woman, videotaping the sex, and demanding \$20,000 to not show the tape to her husband. Publicity from the arrest brought several calls to Seminole County Sheriff's offices from women who claimed similar ordeals with Billups.

**December:** Larry Kinnebrew, former Cincinnati Bengals and Buffalo Bills running back, is indicted in Cincinnati on two charges of rape. Charges were later dismissed after two trials ended in hung juries.

## 1993

**October:** Rape charges are dropped against Atlanta Falcons defensive back Bruce Pickens after a woman withdrew her complaint that he had assaulted her in his apartment.

## 1994

**March:** Joey Browner, former safety for the Minnesota Vikings, is charged with third-degree rape in Minneapolis. Charges are later dismissed.

**March:** Doug Dennison, former Dallas Cowboys running back, is sentenced to six months in jail in Phoenix for making sexual advances toward two teenage girls.

**June:** Hall of Fame football player, former sports telecaster and celebrity O.J. Simpson is charged with murdering his ex-wife and her friend. The case draws unprecedented national media attention. Reports emerge that Simpson has a history of repeated attacks against the woman as well as a previous wife.

**June:** Kansas City Chiefs wide receiver Tim Barnett is charged with second-degree sexual assault of a child after a 14-year-old hotel maid tells Milwaukee authorities that he pulled her onto his hotel room bed and ran his hands over her clothing.

**September:** Kansas City Chiefs running back John Stephens is charged with raping a woman at a Kansas City hotel. He was released by the team the day of the alleged rape.

**November:** Buffalo Bills running back Carwell Gardner is charged with assault after hitting his fiancée during a fight.

## 1995

**January:** Accusations of sexual harassment are leveled against Minnesota Vikings head coach Dennis Green and defensive backs coach Richard Solomon.

**February:** Harvey Williams, Los Angeles Raiders running back, is charged in Overland Park, Kansas with felony aggravated as-

sault and misdemeanor battery after an alleged confrontation with his ex-wife.

**July:** Star Minnesota Vikings quarterback Warren Moon is arrested in Houston and charged with misdemeanor assault after he slapped his wife, choking her "nearly to the point of unconsciousness." Moon is later acquitted after his wife refuses to testify. A few months previously, Moon

had been charged with sexual assault by a Vikings cheerleader in a case that was settled out of court.

**August:** Stacey Spikes, Miami Dolphins running back, is arrested and charged with assaulting his wife. She publicly accuses him of a five-year pattern of domestic abuse.

**August:** Four New Orleans Saints players are accused of rape by a 30-year-old La Crosse woman. Prosecutors acknowledge that the players had sex with her at the team's training dorm, but refused to press charges due to lack of evidence the sex was not consensual.

**August:** Frank Duncan, former San Diego Charger, is sentenced to eight years in prison for beating his girlfriend in January 1995. He was acquitted of additional charges of kidnapping. Duncan reportedly threatened to "do to her what O.J. did to Nicole."

**August:** Dan Williams of the Denver Broncos is accused of sexual harassment by his girlfriend, who claimed he threatened her over the phone after she informed him that she was pregnant.

**August:** Seattle Seahawks star running back Chris Warren pleads not guilty to charges of misdemeanor assault after allegedly grabbing a woman at a bar in Renton. Charges are later

## Using what you've read

Vince Lombardi was a very strict coach. If you walked into the locker room of one of his teams, you'd probably find a list of rules hanging on the wall. One rule might be "All men must be in bed by 11:00 PM or pay a fine." What are some other rules you'd expect to find on his list? Name five of them.



More heterosexual role models

dropped when the case is settled out of court.

**September:** Cincinnati Bengals defensive lineman Dan Wilkinson, is arrested after allegedly punching his girlfriend, who was four months pregnant at the time.

**October:** Former NFL lineman Louis Sharpe is arrested in suburban Phoenix after a Halloween party and charged with disorderly conduct, sexual assault, unlawful imprisonment, aggravated assault, and resisting arrest.

## 1996

**January:** Seattle Seahawks players Lamar Smith and Jeff Blackshear are sued by a Kirkland, Washington woman who claimed they sexually assaulted her. Authorities had declined to prosecute the case, calling it "unprovable."

**January:** James Harris, Minnesota Vikings defensive end, pleads guilty to third-degree assault for beating his wife.

## 1997

**April:** Cornelius Bennett, linebacker for Indianapolis, convicted of reduced charge of rape and sexual abuse.

**September:** Christian Peter, defensive lineman for the Giants, pleaded no contest to sexual assault, guilty of assault.

**November:** Jake Plummer (quarterback, Arizona) pleaded no contest to four counts of sexual abuse.

## 1998

**July:** Deion Sanders (defensive back, Dallas) guilty: reduced charge of aggravated assault, no contest to battery.

**August:** Lamar Thomas (wide receiver, Miami) guilty: aggravated battery.

## 1999

**February:** James Pruitt, a wide receiver who played three seasons with the Miami Dolphins in the 1980s, was one of four people arrested by federal drug agents in Columbus, Georgia, who also seized four kilograms of cocaine and \$27,000 cash. The arrests by a narcotics task force occurred at Pruitt's Columbus home. Pruitt, 35, was charged with drug trafficking. Pruitt played with the Dolphins from 1986 to 1988.

**May:** Convicted drug dealer Rickey Brownlee convinced NFL wide receiver Tony Martin to bring thousands of dollars in cash to pay his attorney, according to taped phone calls played in Brownlee and Martin's money-laundering trial. The calls were routinely taped by detention center administrators, who notify inmates of the recording policy. Prosecutors maintain the cash came from Brownlee's drug transactions. Martin, who signed a \$14.2 million contract with the Miami Dolphins, has been friends since childhood with Brownlee, dubbed the "da mayor" of Opa-locka.

next page ▶

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## Batter up



**P**atrick Batt, left, president of Merchants of Upper Market and Castro, accepted a "Patrick Batt Day in San Francisco" proclamation from Mayor Willie Brown at MUMC's annual post-holiday party at Harvey's bar last Thursday, January 20. Batt said he was "pleased" by the recognition of his work to bolster the merchants' group. About 75 people attended the party.

## Sports Complex

◀ previous page

**July:** New York Jets All-Pro offensive tackle John "Jumbo" Elliott, 34, and his teammate Jason Fabini, 24, had their hearings continued until September 13 at Long Beach City Court, according to their attorney. Meanwhile, former Jet and current Cincinnati Bengal Matt O'Dwyer, 27, was arraigned in Mineola County Court. All three players were arrested at Bogart's bar after a fight that sent two police officers to the hospital. Elliott has been charged with simple assault, public lewdness and harassment, while Fabini faces a disorderly conduct charge. The charges against O'Dwyer: counts of second-degree assault, criminal mischief, harassment, and disorderly conduct. A total of 21 police officers, from two separate police departments, were required to subdue them. Elliott, allegedly urinated in the sink of the women's bathroom, then hit a female patron. A cuffed O'Dwyer, seated in the back of a police car, kicked out a car window, sending a spray of glass that caught two Long Beach police officers in the eyes and sent them to the hospital.

### Special college edition:

**October:** In Laramie, Wyoming, one of the state's most anticipated court cases – the trial of Aaron McKinney, accused of helping kill Matthew Shepard – had to wait: The University of Wyoming football team was playing its big rival. Fans attending the October 23 night game between Wyoming and Colorado State took all available motel rooms for that weekend, leaving potential jurors no place to sleep.

**December:** Cecil Collins, the jailed running back of the Miami Dolphins, is accused of harassing and stalking two more women. Collins is awaiting extradition to Louisiana for a probation violation. The 23-year-old rookie was arrested this month and accused

of breaking into the apartment of neighbor Tina Nolte, 28, a married woman he had met in the complex's gym and tried to date. Miriam Dandaneau, a 25-year-old mother of two boys who also resides in the complex, said she filed a complaint with the office manager July 19. John Dandaneau, her husband, said Collins pulled down his swim trunks and exposed himself to his wife within view of two teen-age girls.

**December:** Orlando Brown of the Cleveland Browns, after being accidentally hit in the eye by a referee's flag, assaults the referee, knocking him to the ground.

**December:** A 300-pound former NFL lineman who had become a coach for a Florida high school has been indicted on charges he helped run a major drug operation. Jeffery Esters, 30, a defensive tackle who played for the New York Jets, the Los Angeles Rams and the Pittsburgh Steelers, was arrested as he left his girlfriend's Hollywood home. Esters allegedly conspired to ship more than 168 kilograms of powdered cocaine, 2 kilograms of crack cocaine and 1 kilogram of heroin to the Pittsburgh area, according to Drug Enforcement Administration officials.

**December:** Indianapolis Colts defensive back Steve Muhammad had a pretrial hearing on charges he beat his wife just days before she died from labor complications. A judge also said during a hearing that Muhammad cannot have contact with his wife's son, Eric, 6, whom he allegedly attacked with a plastic baseball bat. Nichole Muhammad died November 7 after injuries from a car accident forced her into premature labor; the couple's baby was stillborn. The Colts rookie had been arrested 10 days earlier on misdemeanor battery charges. The defensive back has remained free on \$30,000 bond.

**December:** Denver Broncos starting free safety Darrius Johnson has been charged with slapping a stripper at a topless nightclub. Johnson, 27, was taken into custody, booked and released after being issued a municipal summons charging him with misdemeanor assault on the 19-year-old woman. The incident took place at Shotgun Willie's, an upscale topless bar that bills itself as "a gentleman's club."

**December:** Rae Carruth, wide receiver, Carolina Panthers, arrested for murder, allegedly shot

his pregnant girlfriend, Cherica Adams. He escaped, and was found and arrested after hiding in the trunk of a car. Prosecutors are requesting execution. Former lawyers for O.J. Simpson represent the accused.

### 2000

**January:** Luis Sharpe, a former Arizona Cardinals offensive lineman with a long history of drug arrests and rehabilitation attempts, was arrested for allegedly possessing crack cocaine drug paraphernalia, police said. The arrest came after undercover Phoenix police officers spotted Sharpe in the company of two men who appeared to be conspiring to waylay the 6-foot-6-inch, 240-pound former athlete, said Maricopa County Sheriff's office spokesman Sergeant Don Rosenberger.

**January:** Former football great Jim Brown was sentenced to six months in jail for refusing to accept terms of his probation for vandalizing his wife's car. Municipal Court Judge Dale S. Fischer stayed the jail term pending appeal. Defense attorney Frank Williams Jr. asked the judge to reconsider Brown's misdemeanor vandalism sentence, saying conditions of probation that included domestic violence counseling and community service were inappropriate. The judge also ordered the former Cleveland Browns star to spend 40 days on a work crew cleaning up streets or do 400 hours of community service, pay \$1,800 in fines, and serve three years' probation.

"We are talking about J.B. getting on his knees and doing a little cotton-picking or a little dancing like a lot of folks," Brown said at an earlier court appearance. He was rebuffed December 14 in an attempt to disqualify Fischer, accusing the judge of bias against black men because she was a leader of the Los Angeles chapter of American Inns of Court, a legal group he described as a "radical and extremist group of white upper-class women who target men of color, including Jim Brown."

**January:** O.J. Simpson goes golfing. ▼

**Sources:** AP, Newsweek, ESPN, NY Post, the National Coalition Against Violent Athletes, Don Yeager's Pros and Cons: The Criminals Who Play in the NFL. Next week: Why I love women's flag football!

## Pride clash

◀ page 3

cause of a remark against Brown.

"He made racist comments, and the membership didn't want that in office," said Gipson. Caldera became infamous during the mayoral race for referring to Brown as a "jackal."

"He lost by a large margin," said Gipson of Caldera.

For his part, Gipson said he is ready to concentrate on the parade instead of small personality conflicts.

"The membership is getting tired of it. We're ready to move on and plan the event," said Gipson. "We've tried to accommodate this

particular group of people for quite a few months now; the majority of them don't even attend meetings. The community wants a parade and that's where our focus should be right now."

Baker, however, had another idea.

"I'm thinking, they're fucking this up so badly, do we even need a committee to have a march?" said Baker. "Let's just have a march."

The Pride Committee's attorney, Brooke Oliver, decided on January 25 that the election was valid, and Gipson proclaimed victory.

"I did not volunteer for the Pride board to become a process queen," he said. ▼

## Roma Guy

◀ page 4

Homeless Coordinating Board, and a part-time instructor on health education planning and welfare reform at San Francisco State University.

The new commission president expressed frustration with past efforts to ensure quality health care for all.

"Where are the policy-makers and politicians saying, 'We want to change the law and this is our plan to do it?'" she asked. "They say, 'It's political.' But the law is changed politically."

"It's not a small problem. It's a huge problem," she acknowledged. "And I want to do something to address it. We need to modernize our framing of acute care and emphasize prevention programs."

In the context of continued federal inaction, Guy said she expects reorganizing to cost money – a lot of money – which will re-

quire a lot of political and public support. But first, she says, she wants to know how much.

"You break it down. Like we did with Laguna Honda: 'This is what it's going to cost you, and this is what you're going to get.'"

"We have to do it whether we're on the Titanic or on the St. Mary's. It takes time, it takes commitment, and it takes initiative."

But while looking at long-term planning, Guy acknowledged that the commission will still have to deal with the daily challenges of running the vast health care enterprise in a system that has clearly run amok.

"February is budget month at the Department of Public Health," said Guy. "And we've gotten instructions from the mayor on priorities and process."

One of the instructions, she said, is that if the commission and the department want to increase spending on one line item, they need to cut something else to pay for it. ▼

## GAPA

◀ page 13

lish, among others. Through the years, the chorus has been in high demand, promoting gay Asian Pacific achievement in the arts within both the broader gay community and the general Asian Pacific population.

For Jubilee, the GAPA Men's Chorus will perform an eclectic collection of songs, ranging from American standards to Asian folk and pop tunes. The heart of the concert, however, will be the world premier of original songs written and composed by members of the gay Asian Pacific community.

"While long nurturing vocal talent within our community, the GAPA Men's Chorus also aims to

create its own synergy by promoting the creation of original pieces that reflect our experience," said Randy Kikukawa, choral director.

Jubilee will also feature the newly rejuvenated GAPA Dance Company.

Support for Jubilee was made possible by grants from the Horizons Foundation, and the Gateway Initiative of the San Francisco Foundation. ▼

**Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at the door. The concert starts at 8 p.m. at the ODC Theater, 3153 17th Street. For reservations, call (415) 863-9834. For information on GAPA, call (415) 282-GAPA or e-mail gapa@slip.net.**

## Imperial Court

◀ page 13

Council of San Francisco.

The purpose of the court system has since evolved, according to Sachet. "We still honor leaders and figureheads in the community," she said. "But raising dollars for community organizations has become key as well."

This year, Empress candidate Susie Wong is expected to win handily, as she is running unopposed, while John Carrillo will have to duke it out with Stern for the title of Emperor. All three candidates are expected to show their wares Friday with big production numbers.

Each year, the newly elected Emperor and Empress select a few community groups that they will raise money for throughout their yearlong reign. This year, the outgoing Emperor and Empress of

San Francisco, TJ Istvan and Sheba, will present funds they have raised to the AIDS Emergency Fund, the Positive Resource Center, and Project Open Hand at the Imperial Coronation 2000 on February 26 at the Gift Center Pavilion.

The Court has contributed about \$50,000 annually to community organizations in recent years, according to Sachet.

Voting day for the new Emperor and Empress, who will of course be crowned at the Coronation event, will be held at locations in the Castro, Polk, and South of Market neighborhoods on February 19. ▼

**Tickets to the gala are \$10, and there will be a cash bar. The Holiday Inn Golden Gateway is located at 1500 Van Ness Avenue. For more information, call (415) 695-1942.**

### Correction

In the January 20 article "Yaki: Did gay rights cause helicopter crash?" the county listed for Porterville was incorrect. Porterville is in Tulare County. We apologize for the error.



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## LEGAL NOTICES

## PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

The Mayor's Criminal Justice Council, in collaboration with the Juvenile Probation Department of Human Services, and Community Mental Health Services will be issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for grant agreements to implement "Project Impact," San Francisco's Challenge Grant II project funded by the California Board of Corrections. Project Impact seeks to create a single process through which juvenile offenders with emotional disabilities will be identified, assessed, and supported through a continuum of flexible, wrap-around services. Eligible non-profit organizations with experience in providing services to delinquent youth, or youth with emotional disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Copies of the RFP will be available January 21, 2000 at:  
Mayor's Criminal Justice Council, City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 496  
San Francisco, CA 94102

RFP applications will be due on Friday, February 18, 2000  
A pre-proposal conference to answer questions regarding the RFP is scheduled for 2:00PM on Friday, January 28, 2000 at the Department of Public Health Auditorium, 101 Grove Street, Room 300, San Francisco.

For more information call MCJC at 415-554-6560

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 237525

The following person(s) are doing business as, CA Maintenance, 1659 50th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Cindy H. Chen. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/10/2000.  
**JAN. 13, 20, 27, FEB. 3, 2000**

Francisco, CA 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Teresa Marie Olson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/04/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/04/2000.  
**JAN. 13, 20, 27, FEB. 3, 2000**

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 237340

The following person(s) are doing business as, TMO Design, 1620 Florida Street, San

Francisco, CA 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Tony C. Tran. The registrant(s) commenced to trans-

act business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/06/2000.  
**JAN. 13, 20, 27, FEB. 3, 2000**

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 237360

The following person(s) are doing business as, Deja View Facade Maintenance, 149 Henry Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. This business is conducted by a corporation signed James T. Weeg-President. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/01/2000. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/05/2000.  
**JAN. 13, 20, 27, FEB. 3, 2000**

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 237333

The following person(s) are doing business as, Diamond In The Rough Films, 68 Agua Way, San Francisco, CA 94127. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mark T. Schwab. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/04/2000. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/04/2000.  
**JAN. 13, 20, 27, FEB. 3, 2000**

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 237456

The following person(s) are doing business as, Style And Personality, 901 Jarboe Street Apt. #4, San Francisco, CA 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed David Bjorngaard. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/07/2000. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/07/2000.  
**JAN. 20, 27, FEB. 3, 10, 2000**

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 237573

The following person(s) are doing business as, Big Fat Chihuahua Productions, 25

Glendale Street #10, San Francisco, CA 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Robert Bedolla. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/12/2000.  
**JAN. 20, 27, FEB. 3, 10, 2000**

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 237600

The following person(s) are doing business as, California Medicinal Resource Services, 2261 Market Street Suite #237 San Francisco, CA 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Ronald F. Litter. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 1/12/00. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/13/2000.  
**JAN. 20, 27, FEB. 3, 10, 2000**

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 237575

The following person(s) are doing business as, Rogue Communications, 4441 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed James Coughenour. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 1/15/00. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/12/2000.  
**JAN. 20, 27, FEB. 3, 10, 2000**

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 237859

The following person(s) are doing business as, The Sandwich Shop, 635-19th Street, San Francisco, CA 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed Yun S. Lee. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 1/24/00. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/24/2000.  
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Women on the verge of an Oscar nom  
Angelina Jolie and Winona Ryder talk to  
the BAR about making 'Girl, Interrupted.'  
page 39

O Susanna!  
'Isn't She Great': Bette  
Midler as Jackie Susann.  
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Revenge of the Goths  
Director Julie Taymor on  
'Titus' gore and violence.  
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BAY AREA REPORTER

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Vol. 30 • No. 4 • 27 January 2000

## Young Turks on a love odyssey

Presenting  
'Lola and  
Billy the Kid'

by Chris Culwell

Early in Turkish director Kutlug Ataman's film *Lola and Billy the Kid* (opening Friday at the Lumiere), Billy, a dark-eyed Turk in black leather, asks Lola, his tranny boyfriend, if he'll have a sex change "so we can live like normal people, not like two German fags." This mantra of the self-hating fag is at the heart of Ataman's new film, a melodrama that explores questions of identity among a group of queer, Turkish rent boys living in Berlin.

Normal is what Billy (Erdal Yildiz) wants to be, even though he knows that by the standards of his native Turkey, he is anything but normal. Still, it's all he can think of. If only Lola (Gandi Mukli) could get a sex change and become a woman, then he could marry and fuck her and feel like a real man, not one of "those guys who kisses other guys, the ones who give us Turks a bad name."

Ataman isn't just fishing around for a good story here. His film is an uncompromising look at Turkish homophobia, something he knows from firsthand experience. Born in Turkey but now living in London, the 38-year-old filmmaker recently told *The Advocate* that his native country remains a land of "threatening shadows" for homosexuals, a place where tradition-bound zealots "have a history of murdering whoever disagrees with them." Indeed, after *Lola and Billy the Kid* played in the Istanbul International Film Festival in February of last year, Ataman came out as a gay man in Turkey's largest newspaper. The next day, he received death threats over the phone.

In another interview, Ataman told a story about a 23-year-old boy who had a sex change only to be "killed in the street five months after her operation." Ataman's film taps into these hostilities and misunderstandings in a big way, and though it is frequently heavy-handed, Ataman never lets the film stray far afield of its social and political message.

Most of *Lola and Billy the Kid* revolves around 16-year-old, doe-eyed Murat (Baki

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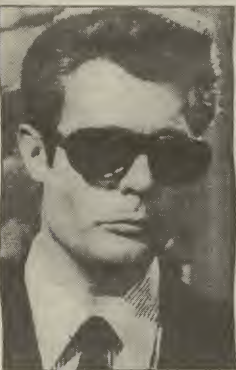
Murat (Baki Davrak)  
and his Turkish,  
Muslim mother  
(Nurinisa Yildirim)

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS



by Roberto Friedman  
and Umberto Gecko

It was a Dolce Vita moment as SF's own Consul General of Italy, **Sebastiano Salvatori**, launched the series of films starring late glamourpuss **Marcello Mastroianni** (at the Castro Theatre through February 3) with a private screening of *Divorce-Italian Style* at the Embarcadero Cinema last week. The 22 films in the festival were selected by **Anna Maria Tatò**, Mastroianni's long-time companion and director of his biopic, *I Remember, Yes I Remember*. Ms. Tatò, who had just flown in from Rome, introduced a prologue to the film, saying charmingly, "It's always the hardest, the English, when you're tired."



Marcello Mastroianni

*Divorzio all'Italiana*, director **Pietro Germi's** 1961 gem, a send-up of every Sicilian stereotype in the book, got the crowd warmed up for the afterparty, sponsored by designer **Giorgio Armani** under the auspices of the Istituto Italiano di Cultura/SF. Following the screening was a *spaghettata alla Dolce Vita* at Ristorante Splendido, from whose balcony we watched the lunar eclipse, a moon as red as a Roma tomato. We lifted our glass of red vino and toasted our lunar shadow.

#### In vino veritas

Out There lunched with our dear stylish friend, career gal **Sophie Capplethwaite**, down in the Financial District the other day, where Sophie works her skirt. We went to her favorite lunchtime boîte, **Emperio Armani**, for tastefully arranged salad greens and a nip of the grape.

Sophie likes to situate herself at the circular bar where, between sips, she can watch yuppie mens try on power Armani suits. It's really the best of mealtime entertainment, checking out how the *shmatas* drape, or if the tailor got the inseam measurement right. With just the right amount of liquid refreshment, we got Sophie talking about the heavenly bodies, her recent trip to Italia, and the heavenly bodies of recent Italians.

Then there we were at the appropriately named Lush club with Sophie's soignée sister **Portia**

**Capplethwaite**, who may be the older sibling but is demonstrably more bohemie. The urbane little nightspot heats up the CoCo Club, in the basement of SoMa lesbian coffee shop the Chat House. At a cocktail party for Frameline's Financial Committee, a chic crowd of filmmakers and independent distributors jostled for position in the narrow space, interrupting their networking just long enough to spill Out There's

drink, a Lemon Drop, and therefore get our hands intolerably sticky (but the confection's still recommended: use premium vodka, Triple Sec, and fresh-squeezed lemon juice).

Portia confined herself to cosmopolitans ("I only drink martinis before dinner, dear") and her best behavior, as we were among checkwriters.

As for the crowd, we'd name boldface names, but that would only encourage them. A sexually ambiguous DJ spun hip if disposable platters. OT hears he's in art school, which means there's hope for us.

#### That '60s show

Out There is busy readying our retro-hippie costume for *The Artists Ball à Go Go*, coming up this Friday night at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. Yerba Buena goes mod, as the ball is being pitched as a zany tribute to the psychedelic '60s. Highlights identified in the press release include



Untitled photo by William Gedney from Kentucky, 1972

"arrival of guests in mod black tie/creative wear" (scary!) and a dance contest with celebrities, including *Chron* political columnists **Phil Matier** and **Andy Ross** (celebs: not!); socialite **Charlotte** and hubby, unindicted war criminal **George Shultz**; glamour-supe **Gavin Newsom**; and a couple of names even Out There has never heard of. Now, if Gavin danced with George, and Charlotte flew around the ceiling again, that might be a party. Entertainment includes music by **Michael Franti**, **Spearhead**, and **DJ Polywog**. For tickets (\$75-250), call 978-ARTS.

Of course, for the complete black tie attire, we'll have to make sure our back pocket is equipped with a few LifeStyles "Tuxedo" black condoms, described in a release as "ideal for those romantic, special occasions."

"People love to get dressed up," said LifeStyles spokesperson **Carol Carrozza**. Uh, Carol, you mean in latex? For more info, visit [www.lifestyles.com](http://www.lifestyles.com).



on the cultural calendar.

These thoughts were prompted by the opening of *Short Distances and Definite Places: The Photographs of William Gedney*, called an "underknown, unrecognized figure" by SFMOMA Curator of Photography **Sandra S. Phillips**, who presented the show. Gedney was a gay man who photographed across a wide range: the burgeoning counter-culture of '60s San Francisco; street scenes in Benares, India; and portraits of coal mining families in Kentucky. Alas, he was, according to Phillips, "utterly lacking in the skills of self-promotion," so he was largely unknown

at the time of his death, of AIDS, in 1989. This show — and a new book, edited by **Margaret Sartor**, from W.W. Norton — at last gives his work some exposure.

Phillips commenced her long-overdue sabbatical immediately at press conference's end. Where is this wonderful curator headed, you ask? Mama Roma!

#### We've got mail

Let's see what items of interest we can dig out of the ol' Out There Mailbag, shall we? Why, here's a letter with a swell postmark: **Posted On Board QE2** (that's the Queen Elizabeth 2, heathens). It appears some shipboard lounge act has got at least one cruise potato whipped up into a mash:

"Bigotry is alive and well on the High Seas," proclaims our correspondent. "In seeking to entertain the passengers, the QE2 looked under a rock and found [observational humorist] **Cary Long**. Mr. Long's idea of humor was to present his audience with a series of minority stereotypes. He began with the ship's staff, imitating — inaccurately and offensively — the range of nationalities who work on the ship. He then referenced the ports of call the ship would be visiting. When he got to San Francisco [where the ship docked January 21], he began miming, liping, and acting sex-crazed. I thought those sort of jokes went out with the 20th Century. Perhaps when the ship next reaches San Francisco, someone should take Cary Long to the

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A great date: dinner, *Ballbusters*, and ...



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Bay Area Reporter

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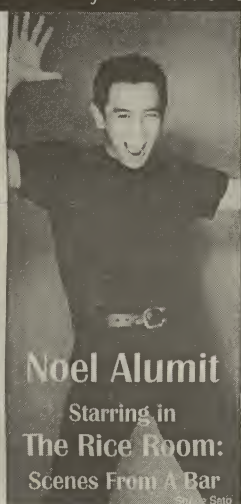
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## THEATRE

# Skin to skin at Theatre Rhino

## John Fisher risks controversy with 'Barebacking'

by Richard Dodds

It's a title guaranteed to stir debate even before anyone has seen the play. *Barebacking*, a *Sex Panic! Comedy*, opening next week at Theatre Rhino, appropriates a cultural buzzword that can leave people angry, confused, or squeamish.

"I just had this friend who writes reviews for a national publication tell me he's not going to come see it because he figured out what the word means," said John Fisher, author and director of the new play. "I was like, come on, I'm not going to actually have erections penetrating butts on stage."

But even those who don't imagine that the author of *Medea, the Musical* and *Combat!* has gone hardcore can be uncomfortable with any discussion that opens a door to unprotected sex. "This is not an advocacy play, but I'm not ultimately saying barebacking is bad," Fisher said. "I'm a libertarian. I think people should be able to make their own decisions, their own informed decisions."

When he first conceived of the play more than a year ago, the issue of barebacking was prompting front-page stories in the gay press, not to mention sensationalized stories like the *Chronicle's* "sexual Russian roulette" trumphy.

"But the issue has kind of faded," Fisher said, "and that's when the play started veering into more of a personal story as opposed to a political one, which I meant it to be originally."

The play is centered on a small theater company, where members deal with personal issues as well as the company's role in gay politics.

"It starts out with a debate between two people who represent different sides of the argument about barebacking, sex clubs, and bathhouses," Fisher said. "Barebacking becomes a metaphor for how many of us live our lives, being outsiders, not only gay people but people in the theater. But politics keeps creeping into their art in ways that upset each other."

There's also humor and — yes — nudity. "This is a gay play being put on at a gay theater," Fisher said. "I really took the context into account in writing this. When people do take their clothes off, it's basically a send-up of the whole nature of nudity in gay theater right now. But I also reserve the right to be gratuitous."

For ticket info, call 861-5079.

### A serving of 'Rice'

Noel Alumit was born in the Philippines, but his early icons were all-American.

"My mother is always saying how I imitated Lucille Ball way too much," the Los Angeles actor said, letting out a big laugh at the memory. That he would grow up to be a performer — and gay — wasn't hard to fathom. That he is Asian added complexity to a familiar story.

In *The Rice Room: Scenes from a Bar*, Alumit's new solo show, he searches for a context for his own experiences through other Asians who explored their gayness in a sometimes alien Occidental world. Following runs in Los An-



The cast of *Barebacking*, a *Sex Panic! Comedy* gets nekkid.

geles and San Diego, *The Rice Room* opens Feb. 4 at New Conservatory Theatre Center.

"What makes this particular show interesting, besides being gay and Asian," Alumit said, "is how bars have been the launching pad for a lot of the gay community, and I try to make that metaphor. They can be a lot of fun, and there's a lot of torment and drama that goes with it."

Alumit portrays six characters in *The Rice Room* as he seeks to represent the diversity of the gay

Asian experience. His research included interviews with both go-go boys and his own boss. "My boss has been involved with the gay Asian scene for quite some time, and he gave me insight into the good old days," Alumit said. "He talked about the bars he attended when he was first coming out, and it was quite pleasant to hear, because I always thought the gay Asian scene was a recent phenomenon."

By day, and sometimes by night, Alumit works as a prevention case manager for the Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team. The seed for the show was planted one night while he was at work

passing out AIDS information and condoms in a bar with an Asian clientele.

"Being in Los Angeles, I was influenced by other performance artists who were doing really sensational work," he said. "I wanted to do that, but I didn't know what to say. I was wondering about that while I was in this bar, and I began thinking, well, maybe this would be a cool scene."

Alumit, now 32, has been a self-starter as far as his career is concerned since was 14. "That's when I had my first head shots made, and I would send them out myself and take the bus to auditions," he said. In more recent years, he has been busy as an actor

as well as a writer, although *The Rice Room* will be his first visit to San Francisco as a performer.

Romantically coupled until three months ago, when his partner moved to San Francisco, Alumit is now single. "You can put that in your article," he said. "I'm really looking forward to being a single gay man in San Francisco."

For more info on *The Rice Room*, call 861-8972.

### Dyke at the Marsh

Lusting after porn stars is familiar territory in the gay community, but somewhat more novel when the luster and lustee are lesbians. *The Dyke and the Porn Star*, which first played San Francisco several years ago, is returning in revised form to the Marsh this week.

In Bayla Travis' tale, which the *Los Angeles Times* recently called an "entertaining, randy piece of fluff," Pamela Beitz plays a butch dyke obsessed with a lesbian porn queen played by Mariya Sparks. "Unlike other sexually bold theater," the Marsh tells us, "*The Dyke and the Porn Star* is risky and shocking for the nakedness of its truths, not just its bodies."

For tickets, call 826-5750.

### Trio of different divas

It looks like a done deal that Liza Minnelli will launch a tour of her recent Broadway show in San Francisco. According to the

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Michael Stebbins, Duane Boutté, and Brian Freeman in *Civil Sex*

## Getting worked up about civil rights

Brian Freeman's revamped 'Civil Sex'

by Richard Dodds

In a telling moment in *Civil Sex*, Bayard Rustin is offering a primer on how to avoid racial faux pas. Not all Negroes are tap dancers, he points out, before momentarily losing control and breaking into a little tap routine of his own.

Rustin, a civil rights leader re-

duced to a footnote by his homosexual proclivities, is revealed as an enigma, if that's not an oxymoron, in Brian Freeman's inventive play at Berkeley Rep. This is a revised version of the play that had its premiere at the Marsh in 1997, now displayed in simple but stylishly expanded form on the larger Berkeley Rep stage.

During a workshop production last year at the New York Public Theatre, Freeman excised himself as a researcher-character, added a female cast member (though roles are played across genders), and developed a new second act. But the show still has second-act troubles, with several scenes either unclear or uncontributory in a production that runs two-and-a-half-hours.

But Freeman's own fluid, imaginatively choreographed direction can often help when his words begin to fail. And the cast of five, which still includes Freeman, is never less than beguiling to watch.

Dean Boutte, who has been with the show since its debut in Washington, DC in 1996, does a brilliant job of creating a portrait of Rustin that is a heady mix of attitude, pretension, intelligence, common sense, and lusty passion.

A key aide to Martin Luther King Jr. and an architect of the historic 1963 March on Washington, Rustin was forced from the forefront by his dodgy sexual past, including an arrest on a morals charge for a three-way in a parked car that is depicted here as a slow-motion ballet that turns into a

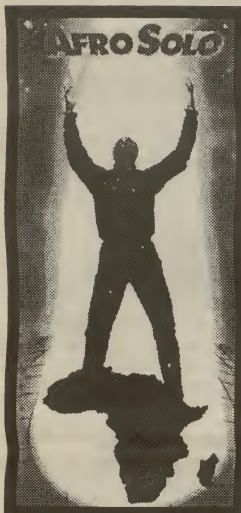
horrifying arrest.

The other four cast members play multiple figures who recall Rustin for an unseen interviewer, and who then sometimes find themselves young again as pivotal encounters with Rustin are reenacted. In an intriguing choice, Freeman has not stripped down his subjects' reminiscences to only their thoughts on Rustin, instead letting them ramble colorfully in ways that help flesh out the spirit of these earlier decades, while providing the performers with richer characters to explore.

June A. Lomena is wonderful in a variety of female roles, and even makes an interesting stab at James Baldwin. Freeman's roles range from a doddering old man to a dithering housewife. Handsome Mark H. Dold notably plays Rustin's lover, while Michael Stebbins, who can be sitcomy in a Sean Hayes sort of way, draws some big laughs with a variety of outsized characterizations.

*Civil Sex* really only begins to nick at the surface of the curious tale of Bayard Rustin, who reveled in a sexuality that was rebuked from everyone from Strom Thurmond to civil rights leaders. But Freeman and company so engagingly strip away at the layers of this conundrum that if the core remains frustratingly opaque, it is also intriguingly so. ▼

*Civil Sex* will run at Berkeley Rep through Feb. 11. Tickets are \$19-\$48.50. Call (510) 845-4700.



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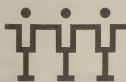
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## Eight friends ponder The End 'Love! Valour! Compassion!' at NCT

by Richard Dodds

In a program note, playwright Terrence McNally admits he's not sure what he created in *Love! Valour! Compassion!* "These things take time," he writes. Six years have gone by since its New York premiere, and the play remains a diffuse if tender look at love and friendship among eight gay friends.

The New Conservatory Theatre Center is offering the Tony Award-winning play as part of its Pride series, and its substantiality is welcome after a couple of lesser lights among its predecessors this season. That quality also extends to the production, which charms with its humor and startles with its tense drama, and only stumbles, along with the play, when McNally begins pushing at buttons too hard.

*Love! Valour! Compassion!* — the title comes from an entry in John Cheever's journal — is a long play, over three hours, but the time is not taxing. There are so

many stories being told, and so many permutations among the characters, that scenes and situations are always changing, at times flashing back, and at one point even looking far into the future.

Each of the play's three acts takes place on a different holiday weekend at the summer home of a noted dancer-choreographer and his blind lover. The guests include a variety of friends and associates, who inevitably play out their personal dramas at some point each weekend. Mortality is a common denominator, as both the ill and the healthy must prematurely ponder the end.

Two of the guests have AIDS, with no expectation that death could be anything but imminent. Feeling guilty, a healthy friend says he feels like "a bystander at gay genocide," one of the few moments when McNally cranks up the political jargon and the play strays from the honesty of its emotions.

What's refreshing about McNally's characters is that while

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## FILM

# Lovely Jackie!

Bisexual gay icon Jacqueline Susann goes straight in 'Isn't She Great'

by Brandon Judell

It's the decade of Jacqueline Susann, the author of *Valley of the Dolls*, the best-selling novel of all time — and the Bible of a many a drag queen. Recently, there's been a Lifetime biopic starring Michele Lee, plus an A&E hour-long biography. Now arrives with much fanfare *Isn't She Great*, an outrageous light comedy which comes equipped with Bette Midler, but no question mark — or, for that matter, none of Jackie's bisexuality.

Yes, Jackie, this celebrity of self-made celebrities, had a yen for Jewish male comics and more than a few damsels. In fact, the woman Truman Capote said looked "like a truck driver in drag," a remark he later apologized to truck drivers for, comes across here as a fame-obsessed, cancer-ridden, kooky broad who would copulate with the national membership of the Teamsters if it would increase her book sales.

But then, this film strives for veracity with the same vigor Gary Bauer is seeking out the gay vote. Not. For an honest portrayal of the woman who thought she'd always be as famous as the Beatles, you need Barbara Seaman's *Lovely Me* (Seven Stories Press). This bio includes such tidbits as a friend recalling that at a party, "Jackie and Ethel [Merman] were very drunk, and they lay down on a couch and they just made out in front of everyone." At a later date, after Merman said, "I don't ever want to see you again! You're as crazy as your son!" — Susann's son was autistic — Jackie followed the star of *Gypsy* all the way home and then stood outside her apartment, banging on the door and yelling, "Ethel, I love you!"

## Stars and makers

To find out the whys and wherefores of the new film's choices, which was based upon a 5-page Michael Korda article in *The New Yorker*, B.A.R. sat down with *Isn't She Great*'s creators and several of its stars in New York City's Regency Hotel. Included was screenwriter Paul Rudnick, the openly gay scribe responsible for *In & Out* and *Jeffrey*.

"I was always a fan," Paul shares, "so I thrust myself on this project. I remember growing up seeing Jackie on talk shows and thinking, 'My God! That woman wants to be on those shows very badly.'" Laughing, he adds, "I guess I responded to her the way the world responded, which was that there seemed something very hon-



Bette Midler as celebrity author Jacqueline Susann, and Nathan Lane as her devoted husband and manager Irving Mansfield in *Isn't She Great*

est about her. There was something gutsy and earthy and fun about her that you could not help but respond to. You thought, 'Who could turn off the TV when Jackie Susann was on?' She promised a good time and delivered."

"Right," director Andrew (Honeymoon in Vegas) Bergman pipes in. "But please note, I didn't want to do a biopic. We wanted to do something about a period as much as anything. About a phenomenon. I mean, there are true events, such as her book tour for *Valley of the Dolls*. Jackie invented that type of tour. In a way, she was responsible for the decline of all of publishing." Laughing, he notes, "She was the first one who did that, selling her book out of her trunk. People like Erica Jong wouldn't have existed without Jackie. Erica did the same thing with *Fear of Flying*."

But how come no Ethel Merman make-out scene?

"When I was having trouble with Bette," Bergman replies, "I'd threaten her with a new scene, one with her and Ethel. She'd shape up real fast." But the real reason the film doesn't address Susann's numerous acts of philandering with both men and women, he explains, was, "I didn't want to go there because she's not the most sympathetic character to begin with, and the studio was hocking me to tone it down even more than we did. To have her cheating on Irving [her

spouse] was not good."

"But also," Rudnick adds, "I think the main period we focus on is her *Valley of the Dolls* sec-

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# The higher the hair, the closer to God

Kevin Allen's 'The Big Tease' never really flames out

by Robert Julian

Tales of overly ambitious Scots are as old as *Macbeth*. Tales of overly ambitious gay Scottish hairdressers are a bit more rare. But that is precisely what director Kevin Anderson delivers in *The Big Tease*, a film co-written by its leading man, Craig Ferguson (who plays Mr. Wick on *The Drew Carey Show*) and Sacha Gervasi.

Crawford Mackenzie (Ferguson) is a hardworking Glasgow hairdresser who receives an invitation to the annual competition of the World International Hairdressing Foundation (W.I.H.F.), to be held in Los Angeles. Quicker than you can say Jon Peters, Mackenzie is flying to Hollywood, with a documentary film crew in tow that will record his efforts in the tease-off. What the hapless Mackenzie doesn't realize, until he has installed himself in the Beverly Hills Hotel, is that his invitation was only a random mailing to people who might want to observe the competition.

Mackenzie isn't the kind of guy who takes "no" for an answer. Enlisting the help of a Hollywood agent named Candy (Francis Fisher), he climbs every mountain and fords every stream in pursuit of his big-haired dream of winning the Platinum Scissors — a trophy "hand-forged by Faberge for Tsar Nicholas II." In his ardu-

ous quest, Mackenzie encounters a tough contest coordinator (Mary McCormack); an actor/limo driver (Donal Logue);

a vicious big-time stylist (David Rasche); and Drew Carey, David Hasselhoff, Bruce Jenner, Cathy Lee Crosby, and José Eber — all

playing themselves.

*The Big Tease* is a good-natured piece of fluff, a silly soufflé that sends up Hollywood and hairdressing, employing about as much overt homosexuality as *Will & Grace* and considerably less venom than the now-defunct Fox television satire *Action*. These qualities are both the saving grace and the Achilles' heel of *The Big Tease*. As writers, Ferguson and Gervasi tread the middle ground, creating a film that will only offend those who believe gay people should be allowed to have a sex life onscreen.

Director Anderson keeps things light, and keeps things moving. Mackenzie never really

flames out the way the stereotypical hairdresser would, nor does he get vicious with the many people who try to stand in his way. The supporting cast is colorful, and the convention of the mock documentary is less annoying than it could be. But *The Big Tease* invests too much energy in being likable; its satire never bites, and its humor doesn't produce belly laughs. Yet for those seeking a safe haven from all those self-important end-of-year releases, this slight charmer might be the ticket. ▼

*The Big Tease* opens Friday, January 28.



Craig Ferguson and Veronica Webb in *The Big Tease*

## Out on Video

# Cold-blooded comedy

by Will Shank

*Election*, directed by Alexander Payne, written by Alexander Payne and Jim Taylor (Paramount Pictures)

This brilliant dark comedy from Nebraska native Payne examines the rotten underside of white-bread America. The cut-throat ambition embodied by perky, blonde Omaha high school senior Tracy Flick (Reese Witherspoon, in an Oscar-worthy role) is frightening to behold. As the one member of the faculty to recognize the danger that she and her campaign for class president ("Pick Flick!") represent, Matthew Broderick allows himself to appear paunchy and harried. His 1999 Mr. McAllister is a perfect bookend for his 1986 smart-ass, Ferris Bueller.

Among the stumbling blocks on her path to political success, besides a civics teacher who is trying to de-rail her campaign, Tracy encounters lesbian sabotage in a subplot involving an antagonistic sister and brother (the perfectly cast Jessica Campbell and Chris Klein), who run against her for reasons of their own. A lecherous teacher, unfaithful husbands and wives, and Mr. McAllister himself are all examined in the brightly-lit scrutiny of a hysterical screenplay and the savvy editing of director

Payne, who has created a cold-blooded comedy classic for the end of the American century.

*South Park: Bigger, Longer and Uncut*, directed by Trey Parker, written by Trey Parker, Matt Stone and Pam Brady (Paramount Pictures and Warner Brothers)

It is impossible to feel neutral about *South Park*, in either its Comedy Central television version or in its *Uncut* big-screen (and now, in full cycle, small-screen) version. The cute, round, *Peanuts*-like cartoon characters of Cartman, Kyle and Stanley spout obscenities, and throw up when nervous. The dialog is hysterical in most of the *South Park* productions, and *Uncut*, with its Broadway musical format *d la Beauty and the Beast*, is one of the funniest things I've ever seen. After viewing it on the big screen, I left the theater humming the tune to Trey Parker's "Uncle Fucka," and pondered the deeper meaning of a small Colorado community's hostility toward Canada ("Blame Canada!"). Queer references abound in the work of these straight filmmakers. In addition to Big Gay Al's great musical moment, "I'm Super" ("Everything is super when you're gay!"), there is an inexplicable song of adulation from the young heroes called "What Would Brian Boitano Do?" The eternally doomed Kenny is incinerated by a lighted fart, and he lands in hell, where he discovers in bed together the villains of *South Park*, a pumped-up Satan and his lover, Saddam Hussein.

Sample dialog:

Satan: "How come you always want to make love to me from behind? Is it because you want to pretend I'm somebody else?"

Saddam: "Satan, your ass is gigantic and red. Who am I going to pretend you are? Liza Minnelli?"

Satan dreams of escaping to his own paradise, a rainbow holiday cruise. If the manic pace and perfect comic timing do not follow through to the final reel, *South Park: Uncut* still provides some of the most outrageous yucks on film in many years. ▼



Matthew Broderick in *Election*

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# Shakespeare goes Taymor

'Lion King' director Julie Taymor on her film debut, 'Titus'

by Richard Dodds

There may be no such as bad publicity, but Julie Taymor is getting tired of seeing her name in *The New York Times* theater reviews—at least when they're not reviews of her own shows.

"I actually called up what's-his-name," said the Tony Award-winning director of Disney's *The Lion King*, referring to the *Times*' chief theater critic, Ben Brantley. "I finally had the gall, and people I knew were horrified, but I actually got him on the phone. I said, 'How come I'm always getting somehow reviewed in every review of everybody else's work? Leave me alone!' He said he wasn't even aware he was doing it."

Well, she was asked during a recent visit to San Francisco to promote the movie *Titus*, did she happen to see Brantley's recent review of the Broadway play *Wrong Mountain*, which had its start at ACT? She hadn't, and a copy of the review was produced for her perusal.

"You may find yourself pausing before the quaint idea of the American theater today as an avenue to mainstream success," Brantley wrote about a plot point in David Hirson's play. "Has it made a household name out of anyone in recent years, except possibly, thanks to Disney, Julie Taymor?"

Perhaps that's why Brantley has made Taymor a frequent reference point in his reviews, and in this case, Taymor didn't mind his awarding her household-name status.

"I think it's a good thing, because I think it's for the right thing," an intense but friendly Taylor said in her suite at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. "I'm very proud of what I'm a household name for, which is *The Lion King*. I'm very pleased with the fact that it reaches so many different types of people, and that it's really an unusual kind of theater for mainstream audiences."

## Puppet shows

Before *The Lion King* became a huge Broadway hit and made her a commodity, Taymor was a respected director and designer of offbeat work that made imaginative use of masks, costumes, and puppets. *The Lion King*, it has been said, is not so much Taymor going Disney as it is Disney going Taymor.

As if to prove it, for her debut as a feature-film director, Taymor

chose as her project one of Shakespeare's least popular and most violent plays. *Titus Andronicus*, written early in Shakespeare's career, was a popular success in the late 16th century, but became scorned as a potboiler in later centuries. Taymor is certain its time has arrived again.

"If you don't have great actors and if you don't take this material to heart and love it, it can be pathetic material. You can really make a mess of *Titus*," she said. "It may not be a perfect play to read, but it was meant to be performed. And when you put those words into the mouth of a performer who understands it and who understands the humor, the results can be stunning."

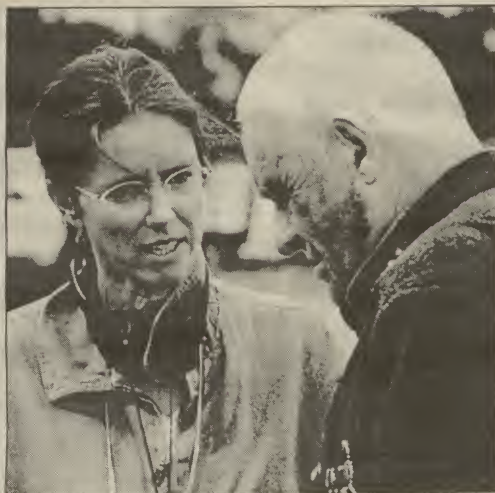
Taymor has called *Titus Andronicus* the first Theater of the Absurd, combining grotesque violence, heightened drama, lyric poetry, and black comedy. She gives credit to television, which she generally disdains, for inadvertently making this style of drama relevant again.

"One of the big differences between our time and the 18th and 19th centuries, and even as recently as the 1950s, is that they were terrified of this juxtaposition of humor and tragedy," she said. "But look what television has done to our sensibilities since the Vietnam War, where you can be watching real violence and then cut to a bra or detergent commercial. In Shakespeare's day, you could go down the street and see a public execution or bear-baiting in a pit, and damned if the playwright didn't have to do something that could draw their audiences in, and then raise the ante by giving them something to think about."

## Horror show

In *Titus*, Anthony Hopkins plays a victorious Roman general who returns with prize prisoners, the Queen of the Goths (played by Jessica Lange) and her sons. When, despite her impassioned pleadings, Titus ritualistically sacrifices her first-born son, she begins plotting a horrific revenge on Titus and his children. Her cause is helped by her marriage to the new Roman emperor (Alan Cumming), an incompetent sybarite who Titus himself installed in power.

Taymor shot the sprawling movie on location amid such familiar Roman ruins as the Coliseum and the Baths of Caracalla. But these sites meld with more con-



Director Julie Taymor and Anthony Hopkins on the set of *Titus*

temporary imagery, such as imposing buildings of the Mussolini era, motorcycles and tanks, and costumes that transcend the centuries. "I wanted to blend and collide time," Taylor said, "to juxtapose ancient barbaric rituals with more familiar attitudes and styles."

Those rituals include rape, mutilation, decapitation, and cannibalism. Taymor thinks *Titus* is a shocking movie, not because of the physical violence, which she

feels she depicts with restraint, but for the psychological violence that characters must endure.

"I hate gratuitous violence," she said. "I find it to be a very dangerous thing in the American cinema, and I also think that violence that is condoned because it's war is very dangerous. I think that's what Shakespeare is talking about. You can say we're fighting for freedom, but somebody else who sees their children being killed doesn't

necessarily see it that way. I'm not saying we shouldn't drop the bomb or any of that. I'm just saying that this is going leave a legacy, and this play is an incredible dissertation on that."

Taymor doesn't want *Titus* to be just an art-house film, not after the agonies of making it, and she's been traveling the country to sell her vision.

"I suffered the hell out of doing *Titus*," she said. "It was a great and horrible experience simultaneously. Do you know how hard it was to get the money to do *Titus*, even with Anthony Hopkins and Jessica Lange, and me coming off *Lion King*?"

She harbors no hopes about Oscar time. "Look, I'm a woman," she said, "and people don't like ambitious, strong women." But she thinks Hopkins deserves every award there is for his performance as Titus Andronicus.

"Tony is way beyond anything he's done in years," Taymor said. "This is a real tour de force on his part. He bared his soul in an extraordinary way, and it was happening on the set in front of us, and it was terrifying and exhilarating at the same time. But I don't think he ever wants to work that hard again. I know I don't." ▼

**Titus opens on Friday, January 28 at the Embarcadero Center and other cinemas in the Bay Area.**



Jessica Lange as Tamora in Julie Taymor's *Titus*



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# Getting complicated

Singer/songwriter Dudley Saunders to play Hotel Utah

by Gregg Shapiro

Shortly before Dudley Saunders called to plug his performance (with Mark Weigle) at the Hotel Utah Feb. 10, I had read about him in Sarah Schulman's book *Stagestruck*. As a friend and fellow playwright, Saunders accompanied Schulman to a performance of *Rent*, where they both watched the show in horror and disbelief (Schulman for the blatant plagiarism of her book *People In Trouble*, and Saunders for the misrepresentation of gay male artists living with HIV in the East Village).

I first heard of Saunders a few years earlier, when I received a copy of his remarkable CD *Restore* for review. Of the disc, I wrote, "With song titles such as 'Down By The Bus Station I Lay Down My Sword And Wept' and 'By The Waters Of Babylon I Drove My Car,' Saunders achieves a new kind of testament, one to which everyone would be wise to pay attention." The disc went on to be nominated for a GLAMA (Gay and Lesbian American Music Award) in 1995.

Gregg Shapiro: During a live performance of yours that I attended, you made a number of references to Joni Mitchell.

Dudley Saunders: *Music Connection* called me the Joni Mitchell of the gay music movement! They throw that around a lot. I think it was probably because of... well, this is how people have described a lot of my music: It starts down traditional progressions, and then it goes somewhere totally different, unexpected. So it's where you go in a melodic way, and then you throw in a different melody. I think she [Mitchell] said one time, "Complicated chords and complicated chord progressions convey complex emotions." And you're not doing it just to be interesting.

I've been around a lot of avant-garde musicians. I know what it's like, music that's "interesting." It's not interesting. I want to take you to emotional territory that we don't often see. It's what I live with and what I feel. What disturbs me about a lot of the gay politics that we live with, it's all about creating what I call — actually, Sarah [Schulman] talks about this — the fake homosexual. But there are great differences with straights in how we live and the things we experience. I think that when you start conveying this fake homosexual, you're not just conveying it to straight people, you're also conveying it to gay kids. It's the whole new post-gay world, where these kids have no idea that there is anything different in them to explore in the first place. They think they're just like straight people. And the truth is they're not, but they haven't even got to the point of trying to turn something off. They're not even exploring the part of themselves that's different. If anything, in my music, I want to convey the parts of us that are different, the parts that everyone else doesn't have.

And you're not shying away from it.

There are few enough rewards for this. It's not like if I cut myself to fit this year's fashion, I'm going to become very famous. You can't fake sincerity. You can't cynically write a romance novel. You have to believe that shit to really do it. You really have to have dominant culture values to do it. I can't cynically do it, because it doesn't even read well. It doesn't read as good trash. Having lived with the specter of my own death for my entire adult life, there was no time for fucking around. Tell the truth. Especially in a culture where you feel like these things don't exist.

Maybe there was a time when gay culture was a place where all these things were possible. People



Dudley Saunders: 'No time for fucking around.'

explored their sexuality to extreme degrees. People formed tight-knit communities where everything was possible, an exploration of yourself and your feelings of what you desired was accepted and even expected of you. Now that's kind of shifted, where it's like, "No, you're just like straight people. Be just like straight people."

Don't rock the boat.

Yeah.

You are attempting to communicate this through music and through theater as well, right?

Performance pieces which also include the music. The last piece I did was almost all music. In fact,

it's really funny because the last piece was called *Death Blues*, and this one guy from *Rolling Stone* used to say, "You remind me of Patti Smith" a lot, and as time went by, the pieces would have text for which I wrote music, but not always. They had this sort of feverish kind of quality.

Some of those songs are on *Restore*, and some of them are on the next record. I think the next record is going to be called *The Emergency Lane*. Part of the reason why I would like to record it is because it's not just random, it's actually like a musical piece, except a lot is spoken. The songs will be on the next record, but the spoken composed stuff is more like Patti Smith, that's the closest compari-

son we've got out there. It's like the talking blues. There's one piece, "The Sailor and The Faggot," which is based on the folk song "Silky," about a sea creature who comes ashore and finds a woman, and says, "I'm going to rape you and impregnate you, so that we can have a child. When the child grows up, I'll come back and take him and teach him how to swim the ocean like I do. But I'm a magical creature, and I know that when I come back, you'll have married a man who will shoot and kill me and my son." I've re-imagined it as a gay tale.

That sounds like a very original idea.

I don't actually know anybody who is doing quite what I do. It's a good and a bad thing. It's a good thing artistically, but it's a bad thing when it comes to having people understand what you do.

There is a way to make what you are doing appealing to the mainstream without sacrificing your original vision.

I think my more recent music is probably more accessible than the old music was. The next record definitely will be.

How much of the next record is finished?

Well, we may be throwing it all out! I was working with one producer, but then he got signed to a major label and had to drop the project six songs into it. I wanted the album to have a really cohesive feeling. Actually, I might actually go back and re-do it with Chris and J.D. Foster [who produced Richard Bruckner]. He and [singer/songwriter] David Poe were encouraging me to go on the road and tour. They said, Dudley, there are two ways that you can do it. One is that you can be signed by a major label which happens to decide that they're going to put all their machinery behind you.

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## WRAP WITH A NEW FRIEND

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## DANCE

# Intentional side effects

## Joe Goode Performance Group's 'Drowsy'

by Aimée Ts'ao

Thursday night, January 20. Outside, the full moon is slowly slipping into the earth's shadow; and inside, rational thought is being eclipsed by the darker, yet more enlightened subconscious elements of the mind. How is it possible that a concert at Dancers' Group Studio Theater titled *Drowsy* is going to keep me awake thinking about it? As part of the Joe Goode Performance Group's *Side Effects Series*, it might more aptly have been named "insomnia," or "increased sensitivity to stimulation." In fact, "drowsy" is the descriptive word used to link the three pieces on the program (from the past, present and future), which all have dreamlike or otherworldly themes.

The performance really begins as soon as we walk into the lobby. Two couples slither along the walls in slow motion on the backs of the built-in seating; a woman twangs on an electric bass and sings plaintively; in a corner up by the ceiling, a video screen shows James Dean in the knife-fight scene from *Rebel Without a Cause*; and Joe Goode, sitting with his long legs draped over the top of the monitor, draws softly. Already we are being transported to another place through warped time.

Even the performance space has been set up to alter our perceptions. The "stage," a wide strip between two sections of seats facing each other, has no fourth wall, and at one end is a bar and stools. Looks like we're all in this together.

### Barfly muses

"Hapless," the first piece, opens with Goode perched on a stool, leaning on a bar, humming to himself. As he drinks, he says he wants to feel the "comfortable ooze of sad truth.... Just say no to clarity." By now, having thrown any preconceived expectations out the window, we are surprised when in through that same window enters a woman, Marit Brook-Kothlow, in a peach-colored chiffon dress. She swoops and soars around the room (thanks to the efforts of two hooded men in black), saying hello to everyone. She meets a man, and their prolonged exchange of greetings forms a conversation based solely on inflection. Later, she wonders aloud to him and us, "Have you seen me?" But the turning point is when she asks him, "Red or blue?" From a trunk she lifts out a pair of red stiletto heels. My mind flashes between Pandora's box and Dorothy in the Land of Oz. He says red. But she holds out for the blue pair, which are more comfortable, and "if I run out of gas, I could walk ten miles on the pavement." But he made the wrong choice, and she is gone.

Though the audience applauds, I'm not sure if this is the end of the piece, because it seems to continue logically. Dejected, Goode makes his way to the bar, where he is accosted by the raunchiest piece of trailer trash you can imagine, played by Jennifer Wright Cook. Cook's vivid portrayal is the perfect contrast to Brook-Kothlow's tender naiveté and optimism. Another man, Felipe Barrueto Cabello, offers a solution to his problem: "You could



Joe Goode Performance Group's recent work explores dreamlike, otherworldly themes.

always jump" — a fresh start, a clean slate. Cabello starts jumping on the bar and bouncing off the walls, and he is soon joined by the rest of the company in some utterly amazing contact improvisation-based choreography.

The next piece is a new, still

untitled work — which is why the *Side Effects Series* exists, to have a laboratory where choreographers can experiment with new ideas. Still a bit rough, there's dancing, Goode muses a lot and sings, but I think I'll wait to see what it develops into the next time around


before commenting.

The final piece, "Remembering the Pool at the Best Western, Part 1 - The Room," is a powerful catalyst, as art should be, that opens us up to our own repressed feelings and thoughts about death and the Other Side by invoking

the dream and spirit world. At one point, while Goode sits at a table talking, his reflection on a window makes him appear to be floating above 22nd Street. At the work's end he says, "It's a ride we never intended to take." But I am grateful for having had the opportunity to hitch along.

All the members of the JGPG are strong dancers, but the women in particular are incredible actors. Liz Burritt transforms herself so well in each role it's hard to believe they are all played by the same person. Goode's witty and incisive text works best when it's dialogue between characters, building a picture of who they are and how they are relating to each other, rather than just telling us what they are thinking and feeling. His monologues, though often wonderfully ironic and self-exploratory, sometimes contain pedantic lines, which annoy me, because he is capable of finding more creative ways to convey those ideas. What is truly remarkable about Goode's work is the seamless melding of text and dance, and the complex juxtaposition of multiple levels of the conscious mind, subconscious mind and meaning. His work continually revisits the universally important themes of identity, gender, role, truth, love, life and death, and brings new perspectives on their interrelationship, where the variables are proportion and context. ▼

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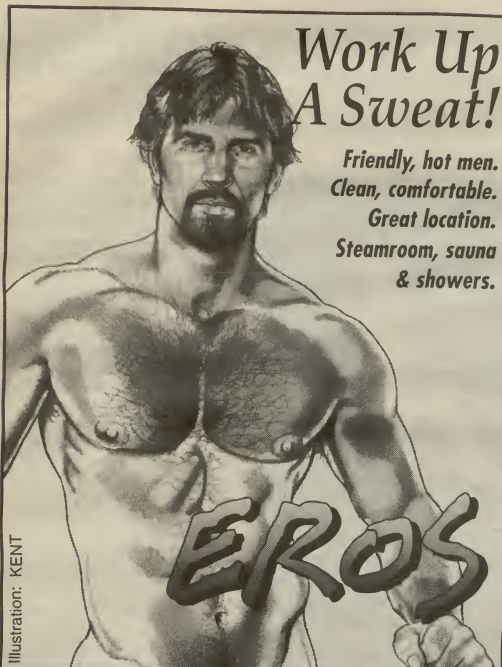
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## Lola

◀ Arts cover

Davrak), a young Berliner who knows he's gay but doesn't have the courage to come out to his homophobic brother, Osman (Hasan Ali Mete). Most of the film revolves around Murat's attempts to emerge from the closet unscathed, which isn't easy when you're being shadowed by a fag-hating brother and a brace of bottle-throwing German nationalist thugs.

### Mystery squeeze

Murat begins to force the issue when he realizes that the mysterious "other brother" who disappeared from his family's domicile several years before was a tranny who frequently put on a dress and paraded around in a crusty orange wig that Murat found in his mother's closet. It's not long after that he realize the "other brother" is none other than Lola herself, Billy's dragster squeeze. When Murat and Lola meet, get close and share family secrets, brother Osman blows a gasket.

On the night that Lola throws a party celebrating her reunion with her younger brother, an event for which Murat makes a gift of the notorious orange wig, Osman circumvents Murat's path, taking him instead to a whore on the streets. Later, Lola is found dead, floating in a nearby river, still wearing the orange wig. Who



Gandhi Mukli and Erdal Yildiz star in *Lola and Billy the Kid*

did the dirty deed isn't revealed until film's end, in a plot twist that is less surprising than it is preposterous and pulverizing.

After Lola's demise, the film takes a sharp turn to Grand Guignol. Billy latches on to Murat, at least to the extent that his machismo will allow. He instructs Murat in the fine art of hooking ("Don't let them kiss you") and lectures him about the importance of "never being a hole for anyone." Murat doesn't know what to make of Billy, whose take on gay life is the total opposite of Lola's, which was full of kissing and making herself available as a hole, for Billy and others. Still, Murat doesn't mind at all the \$50 he makes in the bathroom of a Berlin train station, and thanks to Billy, Murat feels a new kind of independence. It isn't long, though, before Murat sees the limits of Billy's self-awareness and of his new way of life. The film is ultimately a journey through Murat's mind as he experiences the radically divergent queer worlds of both Lola and Billy, one an expression of perfect transgression, the other enslavement to traditions borne of tribalism.

### Macho unbound

Subplots abound in *Lola*, the most interesting one involving Iskender (Murat Yilmaz), a sexy prostitute chum of Billy's who finds himself involved with an older gay German man, Friedrich (Michael Gerber). Though attracted emotionally and physically to Friedrich, Iskender's fondness for the man is hindered by his unbounded machismo. In one

of the film's most telling scenes, Iskender abruptly parts company with Billy so that he can call Friedrich on a pay phone to say "I like you" in private, away from Billy's fag-fearing ears. One of the film's funniest bits happens after the two men have reconciled their feelings for each other and Friedrich asks Iskender to drive his visiting crone of a mother (Inge Keller) back to her home in Wansee. Certain that Iskender is trying to take advantage of her son, Friedrich's mother attempts to make this car trip a voyage through hell, but Iskender elegantly turns the tables on Mama, teaching her a lesson in love she's not likely to forget.

*Lola and Billy the Kid* is a film with a message, which explains why it sometimes feels more like an exercise in polemic than a story about human beings. It doesn't help, either, that Ataman attempts to conceal his tendency for distance behind occasionally preposterous plot twists, excessive histrionics and not-always successful attempts at humor. A filmmaker this good, and one whose personal life experience is so rich, is hardly in need of dressing up his work in worn-out genre-effects. Still, this is a film worth seeing. The performances are strong, especially Baki Davrak's wet-behind-the-ears fag wag and Erdal Yildiz's Billy, a compelling study of a human time bomb waiting to blow. ▼

*Lola and Billy the Kid* plays Jan. 28 through Feb. 3 at the Lumiere Theatre.



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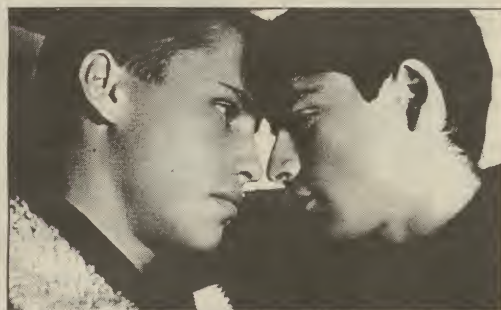
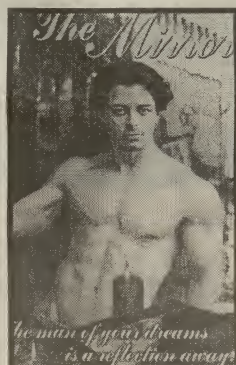
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Baki Davrak and Jan Andres in *Lola and Billy the Kid*

## Backstage

◀ page 31

singer's official website ([www.lizamay.com](http://www.lizamay.com)), Minelli on Minelli will play the Orpheum Theatre March 9-19.

Tony winner, erstwhile Norma Desmond, and concert chanteuse Betty Buckley is headed to the Marin Veterans' Memorial Auditorium in San Rafael on Feb. 6 with her latest concert show. For tickets, call 472-3500.

Will Jean Stapleton's upcoming one-woman look at Eleanor Roosevelt include her romantic interests in a female friend? Somehow we doubt it. But it's always nice to have Stapleton among us, and she'll be portraying the powerful First Lady in *Eleanor: Her Secret Journey* at the Marines Memorial Theatre from Feb. 12 to Feb. 27. Call (877) 771-6900. ▼

Richard Dodds can be reached at [BARstage@aol.com](mailto:BARstage@aol.com).



## FILM

# Those girls

## Angelina Jolie and Winona Ryder muse on 'Girl, Interrupted'

by Tim Nasson

I last spoke with Angelina Jolie halfway through her filming of *Girl, Interrupted*. She was in LA promoting last year's bomb *Pushing Tin*; however, the buzz was already in motion for her role as the teen committed to an insane asylum, and the word was that she was going to win a lot of awards for *Girl*. Nine months have passed since I last spoke with Jolie, and now, not only is she to be seen in *Girl, Interrupted*, she has just come off a huge summer blockbuster opposite Denzel Washington in *The Bone Collector*.

Winner of a Golden Globe Award for her work in *Interrupted*, Jolie, already a Golden Globe and Emmy Award-winning actress (from the HBO film *Gia*), is poised to win her first Academy Award nomination.

Walking into a suite at the Four Seasons in Beverly Hills recently, Jolie carried a half-eaten bag of Peanut M&Ms. Nothing quite extraordinary; however, this was at 9 a.m. Not the most obvious of choices for a breakfast for the stunning modelsque beauty. A package of M&Ms, instead of a selection from the food overflowing from tables in a room nearby. "Peanut M&Ms are my favorite food," she says when I ask her why she is munching on them at such an early hour.

Stunned by the success of *The Bone Collector*, Jolie is taking all of the accolades she is getting for *Girl* in stride. "I was extremely pleased with the success of *Gia*," says Jolie, "but I never expected to star in a movie that made so much money [*Bone Collector*] at the box office."

### On the brink

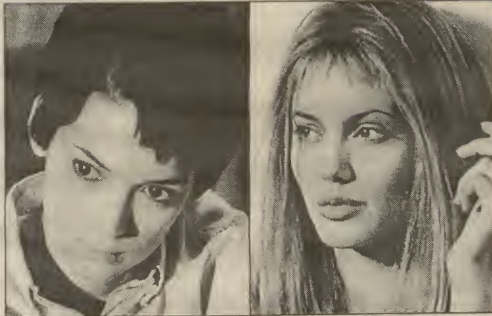
While Jolie may be excited about her sudden rise to fame in Hollywood, it is Winona Ryder who plays the title role in *Girl, Interrupted*. Ryder says she's happy to have been chosen to portray Cambridge, Massachusetts resident Susanna Kaysen, whose autobiography forms the basis of the film.

Debuting on the big screen 14 years ago in *Lucas*, Ryder struck it big a year later in the cult classic *Heathers*. She then went on to star in numerous hits, critical and box office, including *Edward Scissorhands*, *Little Women*, *Mermaids*, an *Alien* film and *Beetlejuice*.

Having been nominated twice for an Academy Award, she, too, is on the brink of a nomination for her work in *Girl, Interrupted*.

"I read the book seven years ago," says Ryder later that morning, at the same hotel. "And I instantly fell in love with it. It was brutally honest, without being self-indulgent."

The 1993 *Girl, Interrupted* was Susanna Kaysen's third book, but



Winona Ryder and Angelina Jolie in *Girl, Interrupted*

her first foray into nonfiction. Her honest account of the two years she spent in McLean's Hospital during the late '60s sent the book skyrocketing up *The New York Times* (and every other) bestseller list for months. Producers fought over the screenplay rights in Hollywood.

"I write in my own journal everyday, so I could relate to Susanna a lot," says Ryder. That's not the only thing that Ryder has in common with Kaysen. "I also spent a couple of weeks in a psychiatric hospital when I was 19. I needed time to collect my thoughts and just take a break from the world."

That is about as far as Ryder would go explaining why she decided to check herself into a mental hospital. She was not even comfortable talking about her meetings with Kaysen. "They were so personal," she says, "that I would like to keep what we talked about together private."

All the talk of an Academy Award for her role in *Girl* kind of scares Ryder. "Look at all of the younger women who win Academy Awards. A lot of them never make another movie again, or if they do, they are not very successful," she points out. "If I win an Academy Award, I hope it will be many years down the road, when I am a lot older. That way, if I never get another great role again, it won't matter."

Though not a girl in the spotlight, other than when in a huge movie, Ryder has had her share of Hollywood heartthrobs. In the past she has gone out with Johnny Depp; however, at the moment, her s.o. is none other than the talented Mr. Matt Damon. Ryder makes her home not in LA, but San Francisco. "It's such a beautiful city!"

If Angelina Jolie gets her way, she will be moving to an island in Canada and into a deserted castle.

"I love my privacy, but at the same time, I love to be around people that I am close to. So if I get this castle, which is not as expensive as you would think, I will be alone and secluded, yet have the ability to invite tons of friends over."

With that, and a few scribbles

from a marker onto a glossy black-and-white photo of her from *Girl*, Jolie gets up, picks up her full-length leather coat and ventures towards her next interview. "You forgot your M&Ms," I shout out as she is about to leave the suite.

"Thank god you reminded me," she says. "I'd be lost without them." ▼

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# OUT & ABOUT



Early music dynamo Jordi Savall guest conducts the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra at Herbst Theatre. See Friday.

## Fri 28

### Jon Sims Center

AIRspace artist in residence Tomi Paasonen and his Kunst-Stoff dancers perform "Manfools" and "Les Sylphides." The latter combines the aesthetic of romantic ballets with science fiction, employing bungee-chords and aerial techniques for a three-dimensional journey. \$5-\$10 sliding (NO-TAFLOR). 8:30pm. 1519 Mission St. 554-0402.

### New College Theater

"An Evening With Andrei Codrescu," sponsored by the Graduate Program in Writing and Consciousness at New College of California. An exceptional journalist, Codrescu's clear, insightful prose as an NPR commentator and the author of several books and countless magazine articles has garnered him a huge following. Followed by the premier of "Night In America" by Codrescu and J. Acosta; music by Guillermo Galindo. Refreshments served. Free. 7pm. 777 Valencia St. (btwn. 18th & 19th sts.).

### New College Cultural Center

Small Press Traffic presents an evening with Rod Halpern and Gail Scott. Halpern's essays, short fiction and prose pieces have appeared in *The James White Review*, *HGMFQ*, *Tripwire*, and *Narrative Website Magazine*, a new online journal out of the Poetry Center. Scott is the author of three novels, including her latest, *My Paris*, a fictive diary set in 90s Paris, authored by a sad diarist whose travel companions include Walter Benjamin and Gertrude Stein. \$5. 7:30pm. 766 Valencia St. 437-3454.

### Studio @ Rhino

"Broadway Ballbusters," a musical review conceived by Eric Brizze and Alan Fricke, directed by Allen Sawyer and John Karr. Featuring performers Eric Brizze, Jorge Hernandez, Gary Wayne Farris, pianist Alan Fricke, and a score of Broadway tunes about breakups and breakdowns. \$14-\$15. 8:30pm. Also 1/29 at 7 & 10pm. The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. Tix: 861-5079.

### Herbst Theatre

Jordi Savall, one of the leading interpreters of early music, guest conducts the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra in a performance of Bach's *Four Orchestral Suites*, BWV 1066-1069, in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of Bach's death. \$30-\$45. 8pm. Van Ness & McAllister. Tix: 392-4400.

### Paramount Theatre, Oakland

Oakland East Bay Symphony, conducted by Michael Morgan, performs the world premiere of Peter Knell's *Fanfares & Fantasies*, Mozart's *Symphony No. 41 "Jupiter"*, Samuel Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915*, and Antonin Dvorak's *Symphonic Variations*. \$15-\$45. 8pm. 2025 Broadway at 21st St., downtown Oakland. Tix from BASS outlets. Info: (510) 444-0801.

### Dance Mission Theatre

Dance Brigade/Wicked Witch Productions presents "Queen of Sheba," a solo dance drama written and performed by Krissy Keefer, who uses biting wit to explore female sexuality and mythology, as well as the female prophetic voice. Directed by Michael Butler. \$15 door; \$13.50 advance. 3316 24th St. (near Mission). Tix/info: 826-4401.

### Venue 9

Women's Work Jubilee presents Lieke Wetzel's "Snake in the Basement: the Prosecution of Bill Pruitt" (a puppet piece about a pastor accused of child molestation; featuring the Lunatique Fantastique Ensemble); Anna Budd's "From Shit Grows the Roses" (a young social worker does her best to cope with gang wars, sexual harassment, and a world of decay and violence); and Charlotte Higgins' "Birmingham Blues" (tracing one southern woman's descent into homelessness). \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn. Howard & Folsom). 289-2000.

## Sat 29

### SF Design Center Galleria

The Millennium Cotillion — Trans-Gendered San Francisco presents "San Francisco & the Night & the Music." A night of glamor, glitz and gaga, rivaled only by the Closet Ball and the Imperial Court galas. Featuring gorgeous transgender contestants, fabulous guest artists, and a spectacular finale. Emceed by the reigning Emperor & Empress of SF, TJ Istvan and Sheba MacIntyre. \$30 advance; \$35 door. 8pm. 101 Henry Adams (foot of Potrero Hill). Tix at Kimo's, Marlena's, CD Record Rack, Rosalie's New Looks and Foxy Lady. Table reservations: 381-2651.

### Herbst theatre

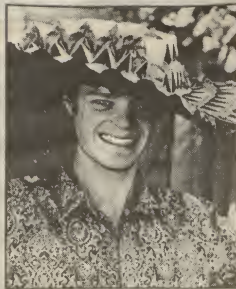
The Omni Foundation for the Performing Arts in association with San Francisco Performances presents one of the leading classical guitar virtuosos of our time, Kazuhito Yamashita. Featuring the music of Morisshige Takeji, Fukuichiro Ikegami, Yoshie Okawara, J.S. Bach, Lennon and McCartney, and Benjamin Britten. \$22 & \$30. 8pm. 401 Van Ness Ave. Tix: City Box Office, 392-4400. Info: 888-400-OMNI.

### Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton

Fog City Cat Club presents "Puttin' on the Ritz," an international all-breed cat show today and Sunday, Feb. 28, featuring more than 225 pedigree and household cats. Feral Cat Foundation and Persian Cat Rescue will have cats available for adoption. \$5 gen'l; \$4 seniors; \$3 children ("family" price: \$12 for two adults & two children). Info: (925) 846-3858.

### Yerba Buena Center

Gilbert & Sullivan's "Ruddigore: or The Witch's Curse," presented by



Origami expert Jeremy Shafer shows off at the Exploratorium. See Saturday.

Lamplighters Music Theater, the venerable and much-esteemed company specializing in the hilarious Victorian Era operettas. A castle filled with would-be villains, a maiden abducted, a musty portrait gallery teeming with ancestral ghosts: The ghostly goings-on of the Murgatroyd family remain bloody good entertainment. Stage direction by Barbara Heroux and Loretta Janca; musical direction by Baker Peeples. \$20 adults; \$10 under 18 (preview prices; Wed. 2/2 is pay-what-you-can night). 2pm & 8pm. Thru 2/6 (call for showtimes). 700 Howard St. (at 3rd St.). 978-2787.

### MACT Cithike

Men of All Colors Together take a hike up to Corona Heights, free for the fit and fit-aspiring. Meet at Starbucks at Church & Market. Depart for destination promptly at 11am, rain, fog or shine. Info: 675-0201.

### ODC Theater

"Jubilee!" A special concert sponsored by Gay Asian Pacific Alliance, celebrating the 10 Year Anniversary of the GAPA Men's Chorus, highlighted by the premiere of music especially commissioned for this event. Also featuring the GAPA Dance Company and other special guests. \$10. 8pm. 3153 Seventeenth St. Tix: 863-9834. Info: 282-GAPA.

### SFMOMA

Opening: "High Minded: Conceptual Art in Moving-Image Media," featuring 12 video and projected-image works from the early '70s through the late '80s. Many pioneering works. Concurrent with the museum's survey of Sol LeWitt's conceptual art. \$9 (\$6 seniors; \$5 students). 11am-6pm. 151 Third St. Info: 357-4000.

### Exploratorium

Origami demonstrations with Jeremy Shafer, an expert in the art of paper folding, who creates both traditional and bold new offbeat designs. He is known for his origami Swiss army knife that opens and closes, and his signature piece, a huge "flasher" that folds up instantly to a small cylinder. Free with museum admission (\$9 gen'l; \$7 univ. student; \$7 seniors; \$5 youth & people w/ disabilities). Noon-4pm. Also on 1/30. Palace of Fine Arts, Marina District. Info: EXP-LORE.

### Venue 9

Women's Work Jubilee presents Charlotte Higgins' "Birmingham Blues" (tracing one southern woman's descent into homelessness); Carla Johnston's "Girl Scout Rejects" (a girl is expelled from the Scouts for punching out a boy); and Carla Smith-Zilber's "Six Songs in Search of a Story" (one

## Calendare by Mark Mardon

## Your black roots are showing

In 1926, an African American high school teacher named Carter G. Woodson initiated "Negro History Week," which in 1976 became the February-long celebration now called Black History Month.

To honor that tradition, the San Francisco Public Library will be hosting a wide array of African American storytellers, dancers, drummers, singers, actors, comedians and book authors through the month of February to commemorate Black History Month. The events will be spread out across the city, with many branch libraries taking part.

Kids ages 3-5 in Eureka Valley, for instance, will be treated to African American folktales, songs, and poetry by Turceda Mikellon on Thursday, February 10 at 10:30am. Other branches will feature dance and hip hop, storytelling, art workshops, slapstick comedy, drumming and much more (the complete schedule is available at all library branches).

Most of the action will take place at the Main Library, downstairs in Koret Auditorium. On Thursdays, a noontime series of large-screen video programs will be shown. These feature African-American artists from the 1930s through the 1990s.

Starting things off, on Thursday, February 3, will be the screening of "Bright Like a Sun: 1935-1954" (1999; 60min.). It's a documentary about artists challenged to revise and adapt their dreams during the Great Depression and World War II. Paul Robeson uses his art and status to fight for social justice; renowned sculptor Augusta Savage builds an artists' community; and Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker create a new kind of jazz.

The following Thursday, February 10, the hour-long film "The Dream Keepers: 1940-1965" profiles Lorraine Hansberry and her play "A Raisin in the Sun," aspiring ballerinas Delores Browne and Raven Wilkinson; and the writing and Civil Rights activism of James Baldwin.

On Saturday, February 5 at 2pm you can drop in on "Love African American Style," a program focusing on African American romance authors and books. Panelists will discuss cultural background and context regarding African American literature and today's romance phenomenon.

At mid-month, Wednesday, February 16 at 6pm, the Main Library presents "Roots for the Future," a program focusing on African American archives and museums, asking the question: Why is it important for African Americans to preserve their heritage?

The festivities culminate on Sunday, February 27 with the 12th Annual Unsung Heroes Program recognizing exceptional African Americans in San Francisco who have made a difference in their community through public service. ▼

All Black History Month events at the library are free and open to all. The Main Library is located at 100 Larkin St. in Civic Center. For more info, phone the Main Library at 557-4277.



The GAPA Men's Chorus performs Saturday at ODC Theater.





Queen Serena presides over *The Millennium Cotillion* at SF Design Center Galleria. See Saturday.

woman's odyssey along the boulevard of broken show-biz dreams. \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn. Howard & Folsom). 289-2000.

#### Boot party

The men of www.hotboots.com and Mark I. Chester co-sponsor a party for bootmen, bootboys and their admirers. A private party open to interested men in a SoMa location. Info: 364-1820.

## Sun 30

#### SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoor lovers for a ridge hike and wine tasting in Sonoma. This hike takes us to Sugarloaf Ridge State Park, the headwaters of Sonoma Creek, on the mountain range that separates the Sonoma and Napa Valleys. It's a rigorous 12-mile hike with about a 2,200-ft. elevation gain. Optional wine tasting and dinner in Sonoma afterwards. Meet 8am under the large Safeway sign at Dolores and

Market. Club info: 487-6410.

#### Venue 9

Women's Work Jubilee presents Joya Cory's "Anniversary Waltz" (a woman marries a death-row inmate despite his lurid life of crime); Janet Thornburg's "Pink Rode, Red Cluds and a Rhubarb Pie" (a woman discovers that her man has done her wrong); and Dawn Frank's "Unearthed" (featuring FAB Worldwide Movers dancing out their tender and turbulent stories). \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn. Howard & Folsom). 289-2000.

#### Aquarius Records

Opening reception: In the tradition of presenting music-related art, Aquarius presents two visual artists: LA-based painter Jay Gould-Stuckey, who derives his work from record covers found mostly in thrift stores, and local printmaker and band member Corrina Pelpon, who bases her minimalist posters on concert fliers, conceptual artists of the 60s and 70s, and posters



*The Magnificent Magnivox*, oil on canvas, 1999 by Jay-Gould Stuckey, part of a music-related exhibit at Aquarius Records. See Sunday.

from the labor movement. Free. 6-8pm. 1055 Valencia St. (near 22nd St.). 647-2272.

## Mon 31

#### Kimo's

Gay comedy night, organized by standup comedian (and former Josie's cook) Nick Leonard and Larry-bob, publisher of the queer zine "Holy Tits-clamps." They hope to fill the comedy void left in the wake of Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint's closure. Same crowd, same time, same price, different location. \$5. 8pm. 1351 Polk St. Info: 885-4554.

## Tue 1

#### Live Oak School

Foggy City Dancers, a lesbian and gay organization, will offer free introductory Square Dance lessons today in the basement of Live Oak School at 117 Diamond St. (at 18th). 7:30-9:30pm. No partner necessary, just come and join the fun.

#### Get Lost Travel Books

Annette McClure shares slides and discusses a recent independent journey to Yemen. Free. 7pm. 1825 Market St. Info: 437-0529.

## Wed 2

#### Student Union Art Gallery, SFU

Opening reception: "Eating Disorders in a Disordered Culture," by Kathryn Sylva and Robin Lasser, combining textual narratives with powerful visual imagery and an interactive installation work, "Secret Appetites," to explore the many dimensions of eating disorders (some 5-8 million Americans suffer such ills as Anorexia Nervosa and Bulimia). Performance at 6pm. Free. 5-7pm. Exhibit up thru 2/4. The Art Gallery, Cesar Chavez Student Center, San Francisco State University. Info: 338-2580.

## Thu 3

#### Yerba Buena Center

"Bay Area Now Live!" presents a rare performance by the SF-based electronic-music duo Matmos, featuring Drew Daniels and m.c. Schmidt using samplers, analog keyboards, guitars and field recordings to create idiosyncratic electronica combining trip hop, drum and bass, and electro sounds. Free with gallery admission (\$5 gen'l, \$3 students/seniors). 6pm. Galleries and Anteroom, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. Info: 978-ARTS.

#### Robert Koch Gallery

Opening reception: "Monument," an exhibition of large-scale photographs by Lynn Davis, a graduate of the SF Art Institute (class of 1970) who went on to build a career as a photojournalist and, later, fine-art photographer whose first major exhibition was with Robert Mapplethorpe in 1979. The images in "Monument" explore the world's monuments, both natural and architectural. Free. 5:30-7:30pm. 49 Geary St. 421-0122.

#### Red Vic Movie House

"Underground Orchestra," 1997, directed by Heddy Honigmann of the Netherlands. A documentary about the street musicians of Paris, paying tribute to the courage and dignity of political refugees surviving in exile. 7:15 & 9:35pm. Thru Sun., 2/6. 1727 Haight St. Info: 668-8999.

## WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

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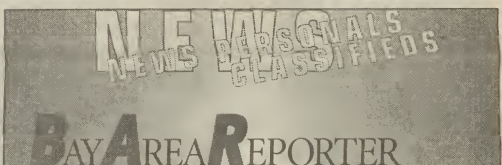
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For 'Titus,' The Brilliant Film Debut Of Theatrical Director Julie Taymor.

- Roger Ebert & David Poland; ROGER EBERT & THE MOVIES

"EVERYTHING ABOUT LANGE'S DARING PERFORMANCE IN 'TITUS' AS TAMORA, QUEEN OF THE GOTHs, IS AN ASTONISHMENT."

- Benjamin Svetkey, ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

"TAYMOR'S VISUAL AND VISCERAL FLAIR MAKES 'TITUS' A GRABBER."

- Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE

"If You're Looking For A Complex Weave Of Word And Image, And An Early Clue To Where Film Might Go In Its Second Century, Your Search Can Begin And End With This Towering 'Titus.'"

- Richard Corliss, TIME



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# Poultry in motion

## TheatreWorks' 'Everything's Ducky'

by Richard Dodds

There was not one single child to be seen at the Sunday matinee of *Everything's Ducky*, which seemed strange since it's a musical based on the story of the Ugly Duckling, told as a child's fantasy, and completely populated with singing and dancing animals. Not that kids wouldn't get restless during the two-act enterprise, but it's hard to imagine adults remaining transfixed, either. For whom does this duck quack?

It's a design flaw that doesn't bode well for the new musical having its world premiere at TheatreWorks, and clearly intended for a life after Mountain View. Director Gip Hoppe, set designer Robert Bissinger, and most of the cast are New York-based, and many have Broadway credits.

That's not surprising since the composer is Henry Krieger, whose own credits include *Dreamgirls*, *The Tap Dance Kid*, and *Side Show*. The lyrics are by Bill Russell, who was Krieger's collaborator on *Side Show*, and the book is by Russell and Jeffrey Hatcher, with the latter's credits including *Pageant*.

With these credentials, you'd expect considerably more wit in the script, and invention in the songs. Pretty much, though, the music comes across as second-rate pastiches of formula songs,

and the book too often relies on sodden wisecracks and predictable puns. "I feel a song coming on," says a duck. "That's gas, dear," comes the reply.

The show is not without novelty. The story takes place in a kingdom celebrating 25 years of non-carnivorous rule. The carnivores — wolves and coyotes, for example — must have permits to travel, and have ostensibly renounced their meat-eating ways. But old habits die hard as Serena, the ugly duckling, who has been befriended by a wolf, is to discover.

The musical follows Serena's escape from the barnyard to the big city, where a makeover turns her into a supermodel. There are some undeveloped plot twists about a talent contest, a TV special, and Serena's kidnapping, before she is reunited with Prince Drake, who has learned along with Serena that beauty is only skin deep.

The cast is a polished troupe. As Serena, Angela Robinson is competent if not particularly flavorful, but her voice does get to soar on several ballads (even taxing the theater's sound system). David McDonald hits the right notes of parody as the wolf, in a performance that recalls the hard-boiled detectives of Raymond Chandler, and he croons in the overripe style of *Les Misérables* (which McDonald counts among his credits).

Michael McEachran is agreeable as the nerdy but redeemable

prince, Karen Murphy scores in a trio of brassy roles, Gina Ferrall recalls the latter-day Liza Minnelli as the head of a modeling agency, and Danny Burstein brings some subtlety to a stereotypically sissy role. They are all gussied up in local designer Beaver Bauer's whimsical costumes that suggest rather than literally depict the menagerie of animals.

The whole enterprise is never less than pleasant, and the second



Serena (Angela Robinson, center) emerges from a stunning makeover, observed by (l-r) Andrea Chamberlaud, J.B. Wing, Gina Ferrall, and Danny Burstein in *Everything's Ducky*

act does improve upon an over-long first. But *Everything's Ducky* can't beat a fundamental problem: It's neither fish nor fowl. ▼

**Everything's Ducky** will run at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts through Feb. 13. Tickets are \$20-\$37.

## Isn't She Great

◀ page 33

tion, when she was already diagnosed with breast cancer, and they had had the autistic child. A lot of her wild days were over. Truly, Jackie and Irving's mutual devotion became very important to both of them then. Their bizarre romance was really the center of their lives. They were both passionately in love with Jackie's career.

As for gays falling for Jackie and her books in the last decade,

Rudnick explains, "A lot of that comes with the territory. Those outfits in the film are not exaggerated. That design is authentic. You don't have to push Jackie Susann very far to get to that level of theatricality. She was also one of the first writers who dealt with gay characters in her books, which sometimes were done in a mean way. But *Valley of the Dolls* had the widest crossover appeal possible. Maybe the gay audience, certainly the female audience as well, sensed an honesty there. She would talk about anything and everything. She was the first person to do it and really know what she was talking about, as far as show business went. I think people felt they were being let in on something, the sex lives and the secrets of the biggest possible stars, and Jackie was happy to provide the dirt."

"She was also kind of a ballsy broad," Bergman interrupts, "in terms of whatever the gay sensibility has to do with that. I mean, she's not Katherine Anne Porter. She was really a sort of tough cookie. And Capote wasn't far off. I remember seeing her in New York, and she did look a bit like a female impersonator. She wore a lot of makeup. She was enormous. She was a strapping woman."

### Plain Lane

Nathan Lane, who portrays Irving Mansfield, agrees about Jackie's appeal: "She was a larger-than-life kind of person, and her books were sort of sexy for the time. Kind of shocking. She was an incredibly colorful woman." Laughing, he analyzes, "And gay

men seem to be drawn to that. Plus, anyone who makes out with Ethel Merman is very popular in the gay community. But don't forget, Irving was obsessed with Jackie. His love was genuine. He was touched by her need to make it. Maybe he felt, not being a performer, he could sort of live through her vicariously."

Stockard Channing, who plays Jackie's bitchy best friend, agrees. "But you know what I especially loved about the movie was that it takes place in a whole other kind of time for women. The dressing up, the facade, the self-involvement, the layers of vanity. What it meant to be a woman then was you never walked out of the house unless you were done, done, done, done. That's so much a part of Jackie."

What about her bisexual past? "Now they tell me about it," Stockard jokes.

Did you ever think that your character's relationship with Jackie ever had any Sapphic touches? Did you ever imagine a make-out moment?

"Me and Bette necking! Can you see that scene? Oh, God! I wish we had done that. That would have been very funny. Can you imagine Bette and I sitting there, whispering to each other, 'What do you want to do? All right. Do you want to make the first move?' That would have been a pretty great movie."

It would have. ▼

**Isn't She Great** opens Friday, January 28, in Bay Area theatres.

## Out There

◀ page 30

Lone Star or Project Open Hand."

You get points for thinking of community service, **Mr. Steamer Trunks**, but *Out There* thinks a simple spanking in your cabin will do Mr. Long a world of good. While you're administering his punishment, don't forget to treat him to your impression of a straight observational humorist. We call it aversion therapy.

Here's a missive from an *Out There* reader whose memory goes back, atypically, further than Tuesday's cocktail entertainment in the lounge: "Not one word in your column this Fall about **He Who Throws Flowers** at the Opera. Did he retire? Was he banned from the Opera House? Or is this just

another news blackout?"

Yes, you're quite right, sir, and have uncovered a dark secret conspiracy amongst editors and cultural commentators. No, we're only working your nerves. Although the Weed-Flinger is still alive (well, he calls it a life) and presumably slinging sporadically, the word is that he has forsaken his hard-core botanical terrorism, at least for the time being. *Out There* can only say Hallelujah, since we fear that one day his little public hobby will seriously injure someone — say, when a mezzo-soprano gets whacked across the kisser with a thorny branch — and the SF Opera will be forced to banish him from the War Memorial into perpetuity. In the meantime, the Thistle-Lobber can be seen at work in a far more terrifying capacity, that of Muni driver. ▼

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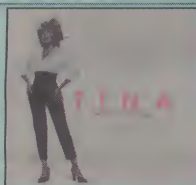
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## LEATHER SCENE



Former Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leathers lined up to be recognized. They were, from left: Frank Nowicki (1993); Joe Morris (1995); Mauro Montoya (1996); Mike Siemer (1997); Tony Mills (1998), and Dean Ross (1999).

## D.C. contest revisited

by Mister Marcus

The Centaur MC leather weekend in Washington, D.C., which took place January 14-17, has received a five-star rating from all who attended. So much went on, last week's column couldn't cover it all, so here goes with just a little more on that great event.

First off, please know that the Leather Cocktails party and the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather contest were held at a new location this year, Nations — not at Chaos as reported last week. The former site, Tracks, is being torn down in the name of "urban progress."

Secondly, the winner of the Mid-Atlantic Leather Boot Black competition, among three vying

for the title, was David Hawks, president of the Richmond Leather Club of Richmond, Virginia. Tracy Black, last year's winner, was gracious (in especially revealing femme attire) as she passed the sash; she had done not only a great job of bootblacking, but of fundraising in general.

Thirdly, in my haste to get the news out, I neglected to include one of the Mid-Atlantic Leather judges. He was Danny Carbonell, the former International Mr. Deaf Leather 1998. Sorry about that!

It was so cold in D.C. (it was 20 below zero when I left Washington National last Monday morning — yet there was no snow!) that the "starters" for the buses that transported everyone from one event to the other suffered swollen ankles and fatigue; nevertheless, like the troopers they are, they made sure everyone got aboard and was delivered to the venues on the schedule. There were no long waits. Those who "just had to be there" took cabs — always plentiful in the capital.

Due to the extremely cold weather, the Washington Plaza's bar enjoyed a windfall. The combination bar/lobby was jam packed throughout the weekend. Admittedly, it's not as big as the Congress in Chicago, but it made for a tight and cozy ambiance and everything you could think of was going on. It was there that it was announced that our own Carlos Larrañaga (formerly of Image Leathers) has teamed up with CJ of CJ's leather in Denver. That should finally put CJ's leather store on the map!

Great moments in "the scene": former Int'l. Mr. Drummer Boy Ryan getting doused in chocolate pudding in certain areas of his body — and willing volunteers licking it off! Seeing the MOD's First Lady Mindy Chateaufort getting her feet licked clean by a willing slave boy. Seeing several hot studs heavily cruising the area — the antics went on and on in that lobby every night until almost sunrise! Every pizza delivery business in Washington made more than one trip to that lobby.

A lot of the action took place on the sixth floor where most of the San Francisco contingent were housed (are you surprised?). They partied so hard, most of them didn't even make it to the Mid-Atlantic Leather contest on Sunday afternoon (are you reading this Omar, Mama, Briggs, Werner? Not to worry, I hear Mr. Bowser was no saint).

The leather mart at Mid-Atlantic Leather exceeded all previous efforts. Leather businesses from around the country and Canada offered up great merchandise, plus there were the usual array of porno studios, expensive jewelry, and organizational materials. Both Int'l. Mr. Leather and Int'l. Mr. Drummer promoters had their slick brochures out. At my deadline, I was advised that the host hotel for Int'l. Mr. Drummer in St. Petersburg, Florida is already sold out. Not surprising when you consider it may cover a lot of ground, but there aren't that many rooms in the Sun Coast Resort. Satellite

next page ►

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

### Thursday, January 27

Choosing Mr. March 2001 on the bare chest calendar at 2100 tonight at the Powerhouse. Win \$100 cash, fame, fortune, maybe even a porno career? New questions, new judges, old tradition.

### Friday, January 28

Landmark event in Kansas City, MO. The Dixie Belle Bar, the bastion of leather in the area, opens across the street from their old location in a huge complex geared mainly to leather. If you're in the vicinity, check it out.

### Weekend, January 28-30

Mr./Ms. Santa Clara County Leather will be chosen on Saturday night during leather weekend in the San Jose area. Rob Price and Laurie Aguinaga will pass their sashes on. Meet & greet at the Billy DeFrank center on Friday; Vendor Fair and workshops daytime Saturday; The Contest at 1730 at The Usual (400 S. First St.), and a victory brunch on Sunday back at the DeFrank Bldg. Thanks Rob and Laurie. You did us proud with your very productive year!

In Vancouver, BC, Mr. British Columbia Leather will be chosen with a meet & greet on Fri-

day, contest on Saturday night, and victory brunch on Sunday.

In Charleston, SC, the Trident Knights MC host "Carolina Encounter-Millennium Crusade" with most of the action at the Holiday Inn Riverview (1-800-HOLIDAY). Our own Queen Cougar and Joseph Bean will conduct workshops.

### Saturday, January 29

Celebration of Grant Dupont's life, 1400 at Daddy's Bar (see details above).

The Defenders MC celebrate their 6th Anniversary at the Eagle, 1900-2200. Admittance by invitation or club overlay.

Boot party at a South of Market location for boot men and their admirers. For more info, call 415-364-1820 or email larry@hotboots.com.

In Boston, the New England Leather Association's 14th annual Fetish Fair & Flea Market at Boston Center — all day!

### Thursday, February 3

Picking Mr. April 2001 for the bare chest calendar at the Powerhouse, 2100. Win \$100, fame, and a painless way to help the "cause." Across town at the Edge Bar, the 2nd Basket Contest — is yours big enough to win?



## POLKSTRASSE

# Kick off with Lips

by Sweet Lips

**T**ake it from a longtime fan of a tight huddle — there's nothing like watching the Super Bowl from a barstool in a gay bar. Super Bowl XXXIV Party at Club Rendez-Vous, 1312 Polk: Watch those tight football pants on a Big-Screen TV! Sunday, January 30, starting at 2 p.m. Tailgate Buffet (\$3 plate benefits Project Open Hand); \$7 beer bust; raffle. For a different type of kick-off: Harley-Davidson Motorcycles' "Roadhouse Charity Tour 2000" kick-off party is on Saturday, January 29, at Club Rendez-Vous, from 6 p.m. through Midnight, a

benefit for the Community Center Project. Have your picture taken on a Harley; complimentary samples of Southern Comfort, T-shirts and prizes.

Here's a Polkstrasse exclusive. Mayes Oyster House on Polk is now open for Sunday brunch, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., with Janice Louderville as the new executive chef. Janice is married to Mayes manager Joe Kobler. Sweet Lips says: It's about time we had a brunch restaurant on Polk Street again! Mark your calendars now with

red ink. Coronation 2000 on February 26. Call Marlena's for ticket info. More will be revealed later.

Who does Lips see in her magic mirror this week? That talented Marlow is still on the plank mornings, Mon.-Thurs., at the popular Uncle Bert's Bar in the Castro.

Lance Cartwright, of Portland, Ore., was here last weekend, and we had a grrreat time, didn't we, Lance? 106 years young! Nan Mundell from the Bridgeway days in Sausalito is alive and kicking in San Rafael. There is hope for me. ▼

## Cocktail Hour

106 years young!

## Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

hotel accommodations will be announced soon.

Special lapel pins engraved "M&R" (manners and respect) were given out to only a select group, and those who didn't get one are slightly miffed. Well, hey, that's the object of "limited edition" collectibles!

A DC magazine, *Metro Weekly*, published a great leather edition including an in-depth interview with the eminent emcee, Frank Nowicki, in living color on the cover, with all the photos by the amazing Todd Franson. Whether the *Washington Blade* covered the event at all was not known at my deadline.

By this time, hopefully everyone has recovered. If you've never been to the Centaur MCs' big weekend, I suggest you make plans for next year. Always a classy event.

### Elsewhere

Last Thursday, January 20, the Powerhouse was wall-to-wall leathersmen for the Mr. February 2001 bare chest contest. Five leathery studs marched to the



David Hawks of Richmond, VA (shown here with Tracey Black) won the Mid-Atlantic Boot Black 2000 title in Washington, DC last Sunday, Jan. 16.

stage to be judged by Werner Tillinger, Glennon Sutter, Todd (Power Tongue) Bauer, and SM-MILE rep. Tony (arf! arf!) Bowser. It was another raucous, raunchy interlude (some visitors from Canton, Ohio were shocked, I tell you!) that ended with the judges choosing a very, very hot man — Lance Gear — for that spot on next year's calendar. The runner-up was Mark Seeba. Lance is a Titan Studios "actor" and also a bartender at the Powerhouse. The other contestants were Phil Bortolussi and Wil Van Helmet.

Next up: the Mr. March 2001 contest on January 27.

### A celebration

It would be nice to see a big leather presence this coming Saturday, January 29 for the celebration of the life of Grant Dupont at Daddy's Bar. The celebration begins at 1400. Vern Stewart and Carlos Larranaga are flying in to say a few words with others in the community expounding on various aspects of Grant's impact on this community. Hope to see all of you there. ▼

## Love! Valour!

◀ page 32

they may broadly fall into types — the button-down CPA, the catty show queen, etc. — they are not locked into these roles. There is a complexity to each of them, and those facets are clearly revealed in director Ed Decker's careful and sensitive direction.

This is the definition of an ensemble cast, yet every portrayal is distinct and memorable.

Unforgettable may be the word for P.A. Cooley's performance as Buzz, the ailing show queen, who can get a laugh with little more than a look. Cooley creates a campy delight that is also dramatically effective because it rings so true.

For tour-de-force work, look to Brian Linden, who exquisitely plays twin brothers with radically different temperaments. Helping ground this group, and serving as an occasional narrator, Steven Rhyné provides an invitingly nuanced performance as a lawyer with definite prejudices, but whose heart is in the right place. Jeffrey Larson offers an effective counterpoint with his portrait of his don't-make-waves lover.

Aldo Pasano, as a young dancer and boy toy, bristles with youthful energy, confidence, and sexuality. Oscar Davila has good moments as the gentle and blind Bobby, though his cloyingly sweet



Love! Valour! Compassion! clockwise from bottom left: Aldo Pasano, Oscar Davila, Andrew Nance, Jeffrey Larson, Steven Rhyné, and P.A. Cooley

countenance can grow syrupy. Andrew Nance struggles at times with the aging dancer-choreographer, first with the curious stutter provided by the playwright, and also with a labored evocation of the character's pleasures and pains.

Love! Valour! Compassion! is a play that casts its net wide and deep, but finds most of its treasures in the everyday foibles of its

characters. The darkness of the third act doesn't feel earned, but the pleasures of the play and this production are larger than these reservations. ▼

Love! Valour! Compassion! will run at the New Conservatory Theatre Center through March 4. Tickets are \$13-\$22. Call 861-8972.

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# BAR TALK

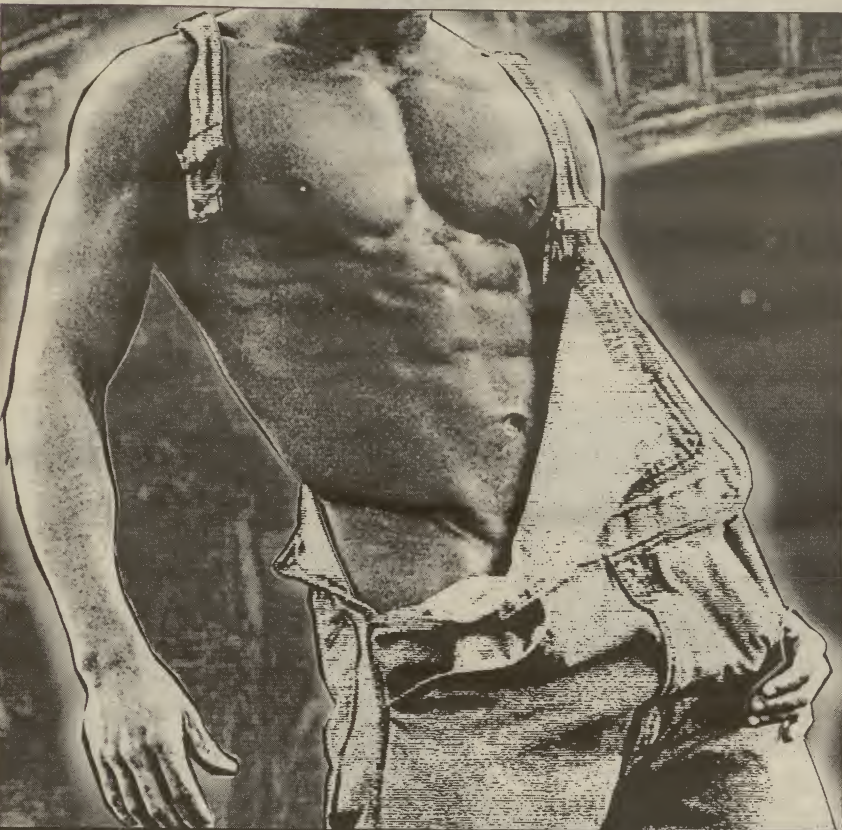


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### PARTING GLANCES

**Sexy Muni Man Dec. 30**  
Embarcadero, 7:00pm, you standing, me sitting. You got off Van Ness. You dark hair, tie. Me: salt/pepper, blue eyes. Dinner? You are sexy! ☎ 71365

**Gold's Gym Dec. 14 4pm**  
You sexy WM; me Asian male. We exchanged a few smiles in the locker room. Wanted to introduce myself, but didn't want to interrupt your workout. Are you single? ☎ 71342

**Fernando, Watergarden Worker**  
Is being admired by a over the hill man who would enjoy tongue in cheek perform onto you! ☎ 71343

**Saturday Midnight Sun Dec 18**  
John, I saw you in the back looking my way. My friend, Dan & I, met you just before going to Metro. Dave is interested please call soon. ☎ 71344

**Castro Theatre Dec 24 5pm**  
You-bearded hunk, bottom of stairs, with programs. Me-green knit shirt, black pants heading up stairs. We exchanged glances, but when I came back down, you were gone. Please call. ☎ 71345

**Followed You And Lost You Soma**  
You-good looking WM, dark hair and jacket. 4th and Townsend by Callrain. Me-WM, green coat, jeans. Shoulder bag-exchanged glances Wed, 12/22 5:30pm. Very nice. ☎ 71346

**S.F. Flower Market 12/16**  
Christopher- you looking for Amari- lis. Would you like to have dinner? ☎ 71341

**Hillsdale Mall Sat. AM 30th**  
You: good-looking, dk beard, thin. Me: sweatshirt & jeans, boots, wolder guy. We locked eyes for a long time. I can't stop thinking about you... ☎ 71366

**Green Room Xmas Eve 2pm**  
South end of terrace. You: lean, short hair, big smile, gray t-shirt. Me: glasses, balding, maroon pullover at next table. You've captured my attention before. I'd like to meet you. ☎ 71347

**Howard BB Sat. 01-01**  
You 24 hour-Mr world. Wish I got your number. Please call. Rick. ☎ 71402

**New Years Eve Fireworks**  
You: Cute GAM, Me: GWM, leaving after fireworks at the Ferry Bldg. We smiled at each other twice, then waived. Like to meet? ☎ 71406

**Jason-New Years Eve Late Nite**  
Wanted to tell you how handsome U looked when we chatted at the muni stop in the Castro on Eve of 2000. Let's do lunch or dinner- Contact David ☎ 71403

**Downtown Thur 12/30**  
1:30p. You: Asian w/bm leather jacket. Me: Caucasian/bik jacket. Walking down Market/Embarcadero. Wanted to say hello to you, but shy. I blew it. You're gorgeous. Please call. ☎ 71404

**Solstice Party 12-25**  
Caught your eye twice. Once when you were in the sling, then again while on your back in the jail cell. So big man, please us both and call me. ☎ 71405

**Tuesday, Dec 14 Steamworks 6pm**  
Francisco, we were both on our way home, you offered a ride to me outside. I should have got in. Tim. ☎ 71451

**Steamworks-Friday Jan 14**  
You: sexy tall brawny bald WM w/blonde goatee. Me: lean, toned light BM. We took long showers next to each other. I was leaving, but want to meet you! ☎ 71452

### SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**ISO Adventurous Outdoors Guy**  
WM, attrac, 5'7", 150#, 48, neg. likes: hiking, camping, rodeos, motorcycles, adventure, passion and big hearts. ☎ 71179

**Seeking Hispanic/ Blond Blue 18-21yrs.**  
Prefer significant other/friends HIV-. No overweights/fems. I'm Hispanic, blk. hr. brn. eyes, olive complexion, 24yrs. 157lbs. HIV- considered good looking catches made. ☎ 71180

**Good Catch!**  
GWM, 41, 6'3", 220# financially secure HIV-, recently out of LTR. Seeks 35-45yo., HIV- dark, hairy, top. Like movies, entering & good times, no drugs, alcohol ok. ☎ 71181

**If You're Gonna Suck Cock...**  
Then be so good at it your guys don't even fantasize fucking you/ always cum back for more, is my motto! What's yours? ☎ 71182

**EastBay Guy For You**  
GWM, late 40's, Italian, hairy, professional. Looking for romance, sex, whatever. ☎ 71329

**Frottage And Body Rubbing**  
GAM wishes to meet a hairy, hunky GM who likes to climb on top and rub himself to the sweet release of pleasure. I'm 56, 5'8", HIV-. Let's connect. ☎ 71348

**2000 Man**  
GWM 49, 5'8", 140# s/p balding, hairy legs, arms & butt, 8" cut, HIV+, vers. bottom seeks well-hung butch top for play & possible relationship. ☎ 71349

**Winter, Spring, Summer & Fall**  
Looking for year round mate. PGWM 43, HIV+, healthy, loving, love to travel, ISO LTR, would love to start New Years with you & my dog/and yours. ☎ 71350

**Stockton/Sacto Area**  
GLM, 36, HIV+, healthy, handsome, easy-going, 5'8", 150lbs, blk/bm, enjoy working out, movies, responsible, serious man for friendship or more. ☎ 71351

**Need a Boy?**  
Cute, Latino boy looking for daddy. In S.F. Please call, you won't be sorry! ☎ 71373

**Safe And Sane**  
GWM, 53, 5'8", 185, bm/bl, beard, HIV- seeks on-going relationship with horny, affectionate and loving GM who enjoys giving and receiving hand jobs. Let's pursue the possibilities. ☎ 71352

**GAM Seeking GWM For LTR**  
Handsome, masculine GAM, 38, 5'9", 135lbs. seeks in-shape GWM 30-45, HIV- college educated. Prefer facial hair, hairy body, versatile, SF, leather. ☎ 71367

**Powerlifter Seeks Husky Latino**  
Beefy, short, masculine Latino wanted for LTR by GWM, 36, 6'-295lbs. Brown hair/eyes, goatee, love food, travel, gym. For monogamous relationship. ☎ 71368

**Ain't Misbehavin'**  
Firm, fit, successful, Leo top w/8" solid manmeat. Saving love and intimacy for bottom that values same; be 40-55, HIV+, kind, LTR. ☎ 71369

**GAM Seeks GWM 65 And Over**  
For long term relationship. Please call Alan. I am 48, average build. ☎ 71420

**Secure Man Looking For Company**  
Attractive, successful, 50's WGM in search of 40ish same. Career prospects for a good life offered in exchange for monogamous companionship. ☎ 71370

**New Millennium Opportunity:**  
GBM, 44 n/s HIV- bright, conversational top. ISO HIV-, masculine bottom 30s-40s, Arts, Collectible interests A+. ☎ 71371

**Mulatto Guy:**  
Good looking, intelligent, creative. Looking for financially secure and stable male for friendship, a relationship or more. ☎ 71421

**More Than Surface**  
Seeks similar for friendship and/or LTR. In-depth, intelligent person with a zeal for being. You: someone w/ depth and the need to understand life more. ☎ 71372

**ISO Outdoors GBM LTR Potential**  
Cute GWM 25yo/ 6'1" 140lb brown eyes dark hair slender build from San Jose area, prof and intelligent, ISO older African American for tennis, skiing and outdoors. ☎ 71374

**Seeking Romance**  
GWM 55, 6'5" 260 HIV- top looking for SWM, 35+ HIV- bottom for romance and play. Aroma smoke ok. Call. ☎ 71456

**Masochist Still Seeks**  
Chinese sadist for bodyplay (clothespins, spanking, etal), restrictive rope bondage and humiliation. I am muscular in-shape blonde 5'10", 165# and 32. Must be broad-minded, friendly, sincere and seeking long-term friendship. ☎ 71407

**Penis Bondage-Erotic Chastity**  
Tight confinement, many days without cumming, prolonged sensual arousal. Seeking partner for deep intense involvement, delicate beginning, gradual development. WM 53, 5'8", 170#, solid workout body, bald short hair/beard. ☎ 71183

**Best Friend Seeks Same**  
Not having much trouble getting laid, would like to meet someone to share affection, intimacy, and passion with. I'm HIV+, 47, 5'8", 140lbs, top Looking for a stocky bottom with a vivid personality who wants a best friend and companion. ☎ 71330

**Lean For Lean**  
GWM, 41, 6'165lbs, HIV+, Italian/German, short brown hair, goatee, bottom seeks lean Caucasian top to 50. Into metaphysics, butt play, country/western, golden showers, massage. ☎ 71408

**Seeking Native Russian-Speaker**  
BI WAM American, 51, 178cm, 80k, fluent in Russian, affectionate, versatile, discrete, well-endowed, looking for native Russian-speaker (younger A+) for friendship, mutual pleasure, massage. ☎ 71409

**HIV+ ISO Fit GWM For Dating**  
We're stable, motivated, productive, masculine, socially aware, professional, good looking, gym toned. We like home, leather, versatility, synergy, tough, travel, humor. You're 35-45, lean, secure, honest, seeking dad. ☎ 71410

**GWM Nice Guy**  
31, 6.0 170lbs HIV- Honest, sincere, healthy, masculine, enjoy movies, dancing, theater, cuddling and real relationships. You same, call. No drugs. ☎ 71411

**Cinderella/Seeks/Prince/Charming**  
Sonoma fellow available for castle upkeep & romance. Me: 41, br/blue, 180 HIV+ fun, fit you could be: dark, dom., hairy, husky. 40-50, sincere affectionate & mature. ☎ 71412

**Brave Sexy Boy 49 Sks Lean Fit**  
Rough buddy/dad to tie me down, beat me, fuck me, keep my nipples sore, piss-feed me, make me stay shaved & horny. 5'8 1/2", 152, work out, uncult, buzzed/bm-gray, goatee, bl/glasses, cock-hungry. NS/nd exc. pot, pls. ☎ 71413

**GWM Seeks Latino**  
Youthful 55yr old GWM ISO gay Latino man 18-45 who enjoys sensual deep throat action. Masc., trim, clean uncult A+. ND. LTR possible. Movies and dinner out. ☎ 71414

## BAR TALK PERSONALS ARE FREE!

### CATEGORY

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**MAIL FORM TO:** BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103



**Slim Or Muscle**

I'm a lingerie designer for men only. From g-strings to body suits. You attractive males 18-25 sexual, safe play. No fats, friends good teeth, HIV-, clean hygiene. ☎ 71415

**S.F. Officers**

Seeking honest serious friends. You 18-35, HIV-, clean hygiene, swollen nipples, good teeth, round butt. GBM, 48, 5'10", ch. 49". No fats nor drugs. ☎ 71416

**S.F. Firemen**

Hard working gay firemen for serious friends. You HIV-, clean hygiene, good teeth, round butt, submissive, big swollen nipples, 18-25 only. No fats. ☎ 71417

**EB WM Seeks HM For?**

Friendship/more? 35yo attr. WM seeks HM 30-40 for dinner, movies, dancing. Give a call, you have nothing to lose. ☎ 71418

**HIV BLK #170, 5'10"**

In reasonably good physical condition, seeking 1on1 interaction. You small to med build, tall or short thin to lean body type. Bottom A+, no bears or bears types! ☎ 71419

**Sexy Student Seeks Patron**

Hot 25yo, 5'11", 150lbs. slim muscular gym toned body, 8 thick inches, seeks genuine relationship w/ financially secure man or couple serious only please. ☎ 71453

**Long Lean GWM Boyface Big XXXX**

Adventuresome affectionate 6'1", 175#, br/gr, clean shaven, architect, nonsmoker, early riser, own apartment, 33, swim, hike, cook, muse-ums, nude massage, romantic b & b's or "Thelma and Louise" road trips. ☎ 71454

**Handsome Italian**

40, 6'2", 185lbs, well-endowed into fitness, travel, romance and quiet times seeks another HIV-. Latin man who is honest, romantic and sincere for monogamous relationship. ☎ 71455

**You Can Call Me Sir**

Hairy, handsome, in shape top leather man, 50, looking for a submissive, good looking bottom boy who wants to have fun, suck tool, and get his ass fucked. ☎ 71457

**ISO My Red Hot Valentine**

You: GWM or GWM, HIV-, 35-45, enjoys movies, dining out, kissing & cuddling. Me: A sweet & spicy GWM, HIV-, 41, 5'9", 175lbs. reddish brn/blu Pls. call. ☎ 71458

**SEEKING ADVENTURE****Fun Party-Boy**

VGL, BM, 32, 6', 165lbs, bottom-ers. Into sex, w, sens. tit play, seeks hung top-ers. Leather Master or Construction type A+. No drama. ☎ 71353

**Senior Cockseeker Seeks Same**

GWM 63, 6', 175#, HIVneg ISO man any race, age, w/ proportional to ht A+. ☎ 71354

**Palo Alto Asian Man HIV- 41**

5'11", 190 ISO a husky hairy man over 36yo to violate my smooth buns prefer mid Peninsula, have car will travel. ☎ 71355

**Strip Down And Show Daddy**

E. Bay daddy, 56, ISO sunny boy, 30-35, for good times. NS, ND, hairy, uncut A+. You need it bad. ☎ 71356

**Horny Mature Seniors**

WMM 43, 6', 160lbs. I love giving sensual oral pleasure to masc. straight-acting seniors one-on-one or in groups. Beards, hairy, non-buffed A+. Not into gay scene, s&m, pain, leather, va, or drugs. ☎ 71357

**EB Seeking Uncut Hispanic Cock**

To service. Oakland area w/ WMM 50's 150#, 5'11" HIV-neg. ☎ 71358

**Candywrapper On Muscle Men**

Tight sexy clothes on fine men, spandex, stretch shirts, thongs ect. I'm gym built with nice proportion, mid 20's, only muscle men need respond. ☎ 71359

**Pants Down J/O**

Attractive, GWM, 6', 41, 170lbs, br/br, healthy, HIV-seeks same. Let's j/o each other at my place in S.F. Esp like clean, smooth, butt, and quick cummers. Horny? ☎ 71360

**Cum On My Face**

Big Bay White male, 35, looking for big, cut and shaved cock and balls for oral services. ☎ 71375

**Rugged Guy**

Masculine, clean-cut, athletic Asian, 52, 5'9", 155, smooth swimmer's body, seeks clean-shaven, lean or muscular smooth WM for hot, sensual body and oral workouts. ☎ 71376

**Naked Ecstasy**

Soothing full body massage available for free for slim masculine boys from your early 20's to your early 40's by slim masculine WM 42. ☎ 71377

**Looking For Irishman**

Who placed ad #71086 a few weeks ago. You looking for oral service in Castro area. Me: the answer to your wish. Please call- you'll be glad you did. ☎ 71378

**5'4" Boyish Asian**

Boyish Asian seeks smooth gym toned well endowed WM for safe fun. Also likes massage and hot tubing. Blondes a plus. ☎ 71379

**Hot White Or Latino Bottoms 18-39**

Wanted by 55yr old White top, 6'0" 160lbs drk brn hair brn eyes big 9" cut cock HIV- seeks hot White or Latin bottoms HIV- who like to get fucked. ☎ 71380

**Submissive Black Bottom**

Seeks top dominant aggressive, verbal, raunchy, kick, sleaze +, available & some weekends. ☎ 71381

**Naked Riders Hop On This**

Attractive Mediterranean 30yo, 5'10", 145lb, in-shape, dk haired & hairy, hot, uncut top. Be h/wt proportionate, clean & ready for a deep plow. ☎ 71382

**Your Personal Cockseeker**

Regular deep-throat service for 20-40 years old, well hung, discreet, friendly guy, any race. No bears please. I'm 30+ HIV+ GWM, nice looking. Any questions? ☎ 71383

**Sex Soul Mate**

Seeking taller, smoother males who enjoy lots of physical contact, kissing, massaging, sucking and cumming. I'm 49, gym, br/bl, 6'3", 170. ☎ 71384

**Seeking Senior J/O Partner**

Masculine mature attractive WM wants to watch you jo on my face letting it stay there while you jerk me off. ☎ 71385

**Jackoff Buddy Str8 Or Gay**

I love stroking cock. In a porno theater, I slowly open your fly...then get your cock excited...keep you on the edge of a cum. ☎ 71386

**Seeks Bondage And Flogging**

Lean, athletic, 45, friendly seeks bondage and flogging. Reciprocaton possible. ☎ 71387

**In Shape Professional GWM ISO**

Trim GWM under 35 to receive intense front and rear oral action. LTR possible. ☎ 71388

**J/O Buddy**

GWM, 48, 6'3", 180, seeks trim mutual j/o partner. Non-hairy plus. ☎ 71431

**Seeking Latin Top**

Masculine, well built, bottom looking for sex starved Latin top, 35-45 for on-going sessions in S.F. Oral, anal, nasty, let's do it... ☎ 71432

**34yo Sexy French Traveller**

6', 160#, hairy, seeks in-shape, masculine, hot men, 20-40 to share safe, fun times. Any race. Ready to enjoy some unusual ways to practice sex. ☎ 71389

**Attractive, Athletic, Smooth Asian**

Male wants to receive firm, full-body, long, erotic oil massages on every part of my nude body. From experienced or licensed masters. Prefer weekdays, day times & early evenings. No \$ involved. ☎ 71390

**Boy 49 Loves To Mouth-Worship**

Top buddy's balls, dick, & hole. Strong quiet tongue job or sweaty slimy throat fuck for fit, sexy, in-shape. In-charge man any age/race. 5'8" 125, 152 uncut, buzzed/brown-guy, goatee, b/wd glasses, work out. Let's connect. NS/nd pls. ☎ 71422

**Cleancut GWM Top ISO Playmate**

Handsome, furry, amiable fellow (35, 6', 175, nicely-equipped, HIV+) seeks trim, articulate, insatiable but presentable nasty boy for misadventures: carnal, social, cinematic, literary, quite possibly romantic, but mostly carnal. ☎ 71423

**Hung Black Oakland Guy, 46,**

Unwinded with a beer and a deep throat around his mocha manhood. No voicemail, beeper or work phone#s. Moustache (but no other facial hair) a big plus. ☎ 71424

**Seeking A Mature Man Of Color**

Me: Irish/Italian, 37, HIV-, 5'7", 140, brown, blue, cute, boyish, clean shaven, witty, charming and intelligent. Sexually versatile, very oral, bubble butt bottom, nice uncut dick. ☎ 71425

**GWM Bear Seeks Black Men**

36, 250#, 5'9", blond, bearded, seeking Black men to orally service. Age/looks not important. Large/chubby men especially desired. Peninsula. ☎ 71426

**Sex Crave Asian ISO Play Boys**

Happy partnered chub look for hot sex. Week days, afternoon. Oakland area. Any race. 35-45, HIV- your place, no string. Relax, discreet, poss long term, sex deal. ☎ 71428

**Asian And Filipino Bottoms Yea**

Let me tongue & cock fuck your hot Asian ass. 37yr GWM, Italian, neg. Great looks & body. I want to be your top! Call Now! ☎ 71429

**Lean Muscular GWM Submissive**

Into rope bondage and TT. I'm 31, br hair, bl eyes. Be around my age or younger, and clean cut. Tie me up! ☎ 71430

**Well Endowed Black Men**

Who need a sub White guy for regular servicing. Me: 5'8" 155 hairy stache. Your pleasure will be my pleasure. ☎ 71432

**FF Top**

GBM need FF bottom into toys, w/s, rim, videos playmates. ☎ 71433

**Masculine, Muscular, & Massage**

GWM, attractive, 6', 170lbs, br/br, healthy, 41, HIV-, seeks guy for quiet interludes at my place in SF. You're slim, clean, HIV-, smooth, and maybe hung? Pls call. ☎ 71434

**Sonoma County Top**

42, 5'9" 170 hairy, hung, positive seeking Mexican/Latino bottom 30-50, slim preferred. Must like Ass-play! ☎ 71435

**Seeking Men Of Color**

Handsome BM, 31, wants to suck your dick. Other scenarios possible but unnecessary. If your lucky, I'll come back. HIV- men of color only. ☎ 71436

**Robert Of Palo Alto Head Giver**

To guys under 45 with average to large cock who recip.. Ub In Redwood City to Sunnyvale. I'm 41, 190 husky bottom. ☎ 71437

**Looking For Fun**

Goodlooking, GWM, HIV+ (very healthy), 42yo, 187lbs, and 6ft, seeks other goodlooking men for fun times. All nationalities welcome. Please no men over 40. ☎ 71438

**Want To Meet Top Fist Pals**

Attractive bottom guy ISO nasty minded top fister. My hole needs small to medium hands. I like dirty talk, all ages, types. Just really enjoy playing with a man's hole. ☎ 71439

**South Bay J/O Addict Buddies**

GWM, 32, thin, chronic masturbator, jacks nased for hours, days. Wants like-minded buddies for repeated, obsessive, cum-spurting marathon sessions. Under 35, trim. South Bay A+. ☎ 71440

**Boys Just Wanna Have Fun!**

Single, attractive, healthy in-shape youthful 40's GWM, 5'9", 160, brown/brown, moustache, versatile SF resident seeks friendship or more from honest, horny, independent, fun-seeking hunk. ☎ 71471

**Gay Artists Wanted!**

I am looking for gay artists to discuss their art and also to get together for fun or good times. Contact me. ☎ 71441

**Hung Guys Wanted!**

I am looking for guys who are hung "9" or more for fun and good times. Call me and we'll get together. ☎ 71442

**Italian Guys!**

I am looking for Italian guys of all types for fun, relationship, friendship or sex; If hung A+. If not, it's ok. Call ☎ 71443

**Just Shut Up And Ride**

WM 35, 5'10", 200lb/blu/muscle muscle hunk wants good looking masculine men to pump. Also love to get massaged and jerked off anytime. ☎ 71459

**A Great Sexual Relationship**

Me: 6'2" 22yo, 185lbs, attractive, gym toned, well endowed, top, HIV-, PBM You: 23-39yo, 5'9" + HIV-, in good shape, attractive, single, a clean tight bottom. Any race, Bik or Puerto Rican A+. ☎ 71460

**Face Fucker Wanted For Oral**

Action, GWM, 50, HIV+, 5'10", 170lbs, s/p buzz cut, uncut ISO easy going men 40-60 for hot oral times, size not imp. Enthusiasm is bears and beards A+. ☎ 71461

**First Fuck Bottom In Santa Rosa**

Looking to meet FFT's in Sonoma County. Have hot hole will travel or come by. Be horny for some cool fisting action. Those with enthusiasm get my hole to use. ☎ 71462

**Mature Hairy Man Sought**

By masc. GWM 6'1" 210 smooth, oral expert with nipple fetish. HIV-. Smart, funny easy going smoker-needing Hot Sex encounters. ☎ 71463

**Submissive Man Wanted**

Attr. Young looking-acting 70's GWM seeks gld/g 18-45 gay, bl, or straight (will teach) man for various fantasies: daddy-son, master-slave, pig boy, etc. ☎ 71464

**East Bay White Male**

ISO males, preferably EB, but all considered age/race open! am healthy, mature, HIV-, 5'8", 155. Rob ☎ 71465

**A Common Interest Wanted**

Average GWM professional, HIV- 50's s/p hair, non-gym, Greek active, French active/passive, cut hard, looking for GWM professional and avid fan of handjob series. ☎ 71466

**Ass Licker**

If yer a young, muscular, hot, masculine dude, this 50yo handsome, hairy, muscular guy would love to eat your butt out while I jack off. ☎ 71467

**Versatile In Sonoma County**

Nice-looking, fun, generous, healthy, middle-aged GWM loves giving and receiving head and rimming. Prefer slender, 18-35, but open to anything. ☎ 71468

**Uncut Hung-9 Hairy Masc Musc**

GWM, 50, 5'9", 160, versatile dad, balding, seek fit man with great butt, nipple work, nice legs, nice cock, verbal talk, light s&m, rough, tender, rugged, kiss & cuddle. HIV-, poz ok. I shall visit S.F. in March from east coast. ☎ 71469

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To locate the best cocksucker. Winner gets a sweet shot from Oakland's blackest and juiciest. No voicemail, pager or work phone #s. Moustache a big plus. No beginners. ☎ 71470

**FETISHES****Big Nipple Guy**

WM mid 40s with big tits & nips for good clean tit worship fun. ISO African American, Latin, Asian A+. Big pecs/tits A+. Huge nips A+++. ☎ 71361

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Wet and natural, raunchy hole, scat, raunchy underwear exchanged, slim, egg hanging balls, cute, versatile, 30-45, all races. Me: BM, 40, handsome, 6'1", 175lbs. 9" cut, versatile, discreet freak. ☎ 71362

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Talented mouth and tongue for front and rear service to in-shape men. Me: 37, 5'8", 125, got-t, slim and defined. You: White in-shape 25-50yo. Pisserts. ☎ 71363

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Me bl HM, -ISO drag queens for fun. Pluses: red-heads, cigar-smokers, clean & sober, 69, freak sessions, (18-35 must). ☎ 71392

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Energetic & eager oral WM with hot mouth & tongue. Me: 37, 5'8", 130, hungry. You: 30-50, in shape, white pissers+++. ☎ 71394

**Bondage Top**

Experienced bondage top, GWM, good looking, 41, 5'8", 155, in-shape, seeks submissive, obedient, masculine, in-shape bottom, 21-45, for erotic bondage and play. Safe, discreet, trustworthy. SF/East Bay. Bl ok. ☎ 71395

**Looking For Serious Nipple Workout**

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**Cowboy Leather**

Chaps, vest, hat, boots, spurs, crops, whips, gloves. Have a western fetish looking for men with same. ☎ 71473

**Safe But Painful SM/BD**

GWM, 42, 5'10", 175lbs, br/br into play that involves some discomfort. ISO bottoms, but will negotiate w/taunted tops. Fetichs, men of color welcomed. In-shape 20's-50's preferred. ☎ 71398

**Spread-Eagle**

Need to be tied spread-eagle to your bed, to be played with, sensually tortured for long slow milkings while I writhe sweat, flex, moan for your enjoyment, mutual top. ☎ 71444

**Spread That Crotch**

Masculine, red head with uncut cock and low hanging balls, likes to eat ass, suck cock, into s&m. ☎ 71445

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GWM, 49, 5'10", 170, bearded & hairy into hot sensual, give + take spanking, kissing, cuddling, j/o seeks GWM under 50 for fun + friendship. ☎ 71448

**Pit Buddy**

6', 195, 40, healthy, looking for buddy who likes to have his pits serviced as much as I enjoy servicing them. Mutual great, any age. Discreet, on-going or one time. ☎ 71449

**Over-The Knee Spanking Needed!**

Stern lecture, old-fashioned corporal punishment w/hand, paddle, belt on the seat of my pants, underwear & bare butt (w/pants & shorts pulled down) required to make this GWM, 40's behave. Authoritative discipline A+. Thank you sir! ☎ 71396

**Punch Your Hole**

Young top seeks FFB into heavy duty piston punching and 2 hand hole stretching. Sloppy hole a must. A+ for facial hair, Latino, smoker. ☎ 71472

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## Dudley Saunders

◀ page 36

Maybe 10 percent of the people that they sign they bother to promote. The other is that you should simply get on the road for two years. And at the end of two years, if you're good or striking enough to really stand out, you'll have a career.

Of course, at the end of two years, another thing is, is it really worth even signing to a major label? Because you can put out your own records, and people will buy them, and you may sell more and make more money. If I did sign with a major label, I would want them to sponsor one of those residency tours. It's hard, though. I've talked to people who have done it. They say you drive in a circle for seven days for an entire month. Boston, Philly, Baltimore, New York, pick the five or six cities that you do. You drive the same road four times in a month. They do that with people they don't think will break on the radio, but who have such great live shows. It's a real investment of time.

Are you saying that it holds appeal for you?

It'd be fine with me. I have no trouble with it. I like highways myself. I like driving long distances. I'm perfectly suited for it. But I'm convinced now that I'm going to immediately fall in love with somebody and then be miserable on the road away from them. It's okay. You trade one misery for another.

If you fall in love with a musician, then you can take him on the road with you, and he can accompany you onstage. Back to Joni Mitchell for a second. Do you consider her to have had an influence on your work? And who else would you consider to be an influence?

I think it's really hard to do any kind of interesting music today and not be influenced by Joni Mitchell, just because she's fairly seminal. I think I was also influenced, fairly early on, by Janis Ian, too. I can't tell how these influences bear out, but I used to love Lou Reed. When I came to town [New York], I tried to find him, because I wanted to fuck him. Little did I know that he had freaked out and gotten married. Which seemed perfect, since all of his records were about hating himself because he was gay, and waiting for some woman to take him away from all of his homosexuality, which was so damned disgusting. That was what it was all about.

I remember going to his concert and there were all of these Long Island boys, and I wanted to ask them, "Are you even listening to what he's singing about?" Because no, they weren't. It just went right over their heads. Of course, it goes over their heads with me, too. Even today.

How do you get a message across?

I'm glad they can take something from it. I'm in the unusual situation where I actually want a gay audience. Everyone else is so concerned with breaking free of the gay world into the world at large. I want a gay audience. People say about hip-hop artists, "Well, it's not really about being black. It's about something larger than that." No, it's about being black. You are speaking to your community, and it's great that other people can take something from it, too.

I think that idea of breaking through is probably more true of



Dudley Saunders

the gay male music community.

We don't have a support system in the gay community for male music, unless it's cabaret. We would have no Ani DiFranco if it wasn't for lesbians. They gave her a career. Women don't abandon you the way men do. Let's face it, we're a culture that loves masculinity, so dykes, as a culture, are at least doing masculinity, which is considered cool. A man who breaks the male mold is very upsetting. So you've got to extra-toughen up. You have an investment in appearing as more of a man somehow. Also, a straight woman can listen to a dyke [singer] and not be quite as implicated as a straight man listening to a gay man.

I wanted to talk about the serendipity of reading about you in *Stagestruck* and then getting a phone call from you a few weeks later. Can you tell me about the *Rent* experience? That was the most debilitating experience of my life. So here I am preparing to die. The whole East Village world has died off, and what hasn't died has crumbled, and I have to go watch somebody rip off my life. This is supposed to be my life story. I'm everything it was supposed to be about. Performance artist, musician, HIV-positive, big fag, radical, weirdo, starving to death... I was so repulsed by everything I was watching on the stage. It was like, now people think they've turned their eyes on my life, but they haven't. It was like they were telling my life story and ignoring me at the same time. So I felt obliterated, like this is the official version of my life, and no one will even recognize me.

The thing is, I have done better than most artists that I know. The biggest lie in the world is that talent will out. The vast majority of great artists I know, no one knows who the fuck they are, and that's just the way it normally is. It is the exception when I've gotten reviews in *The New York Times*. It hasn't made me famous or anything. But if I'm doing this well and I'm ignored, what about the rest, the people who weren't even as functional as I was? So that whole experience was weird. And then watching how nobody wanted to tell the truth. They all got invested in supporting this "authentic vision of the East Village." This guy [Jonathan Larson] ripped off Sarah's book for information he didn't have, and then he sold it. I never had a sense of how powerless I was until then. That made me crazy for a few years. ▼

Dudley Saunders will be performing with GLAMA Award-winner Mark Weigle on Thursday, February 10, 8 p.m. at Hotel Utah, 500 4th St. in San Francisco. Call 421-8308.

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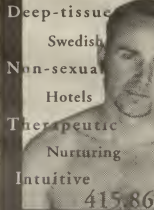
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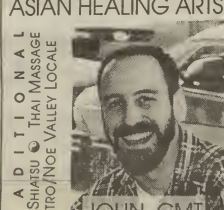
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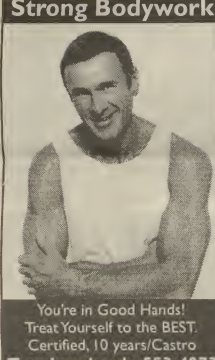
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**ORIENTAL MASSAGE**  
Full body by yg oriental out only.  
SMateo-SF Pg (650)373-8570 \$60/

E04


Older men welcome. Great massage  
Nude cute guy.Don (415) 351-2034

E05

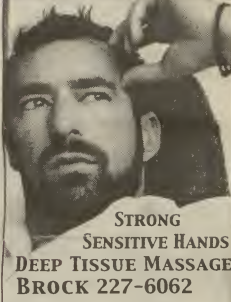
**ASIAN MAGIC**  
For soothing relaxing touch  
Call Alex 415-563-7055  
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E04

**Great Massage...**  
...In a friendly,  
nurturing  
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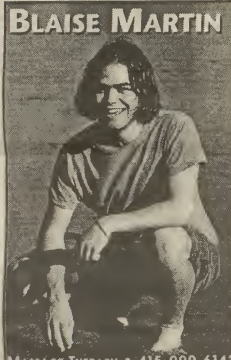
**Darryl (415) 221-6716**



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**DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE**  
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Energizes & lifts spirits 2790533

E04

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Kimo 431-1930

E05

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29yo Dillon 235-4269 cell/vm

E04

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E04

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In-out eve/wknd 807-9822

E06

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**SAN MATEO/SFO**  
Exp'd, trained, Joe (650) 347-2937

E06

Superb sensual massage by  
handsome athletic Asian CMT pvt  
clean ez park nr SFO. Best time  
late night call Shin 650 579 3553

E06

Smooth relaxing hands 34, 6'1", 185  
handsome Rob pgr: (415) 267-9561  
\$50 in/\$60 out eves & weekends

E04

Relaxing &/or erotic by a very  
smth nude masc Asian \*560-6353

E06

Hot surfer bld blue big 5'9" 150  
25 smooth tan CMT Kyle 251 0174

E04

Muscular Man 925-689-6076

E04



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Marin Studio  
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Men &  
Women  
Welcome

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Deep Tissue  
Full Body  
Swedish  
In/out

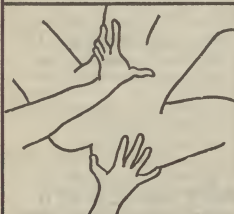
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Massage  
by Strong,  
Friendly CMT  
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Superior full body  
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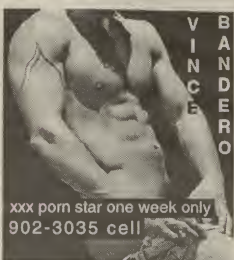
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LONG, SENSUAL SESSIONS  
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Gd Lking Foot top 40yo, 6'1", 195#  
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Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs  
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Beginner? Have playspace & equip.  
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Very discrete and friendly clean  
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well endowed also stays hard  
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Hot Italian will top you with  
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28" w 135# 6'1" 25yo  
**CHARMING & HANDSOME**  
Slender & smooth  
open-minded & friendly  
curious? 415-393-9020 out only  
\$150 www.cyberbellion.com

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Light To Heavy Sensual/s/m  
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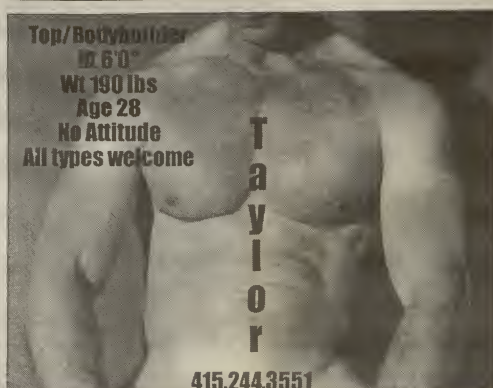
**ASIAN COLLEGE STUD**  
5'11" 167lbs 8" uncut, total top,  
smooth torso, suave 415-251-0261

8" Nudist/Oral/Ken/346-4966/\$60

Hdms hairy massively endowed  
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Hung 10x7 34 6" 150# runners bld  
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& arousing edge aggressive top  
loves 2b serviced verbal kink  
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23 GWM clean cut 6' slim fit  
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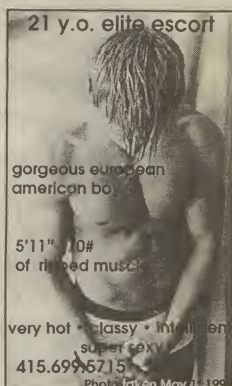
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Wt 190 lbs  
Age 28  
No Attitude  
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Big fat tool 503-0504 Pgr 678-1005

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Big Balls 7.5" 53y 650-347-2468

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**FALCON SUPERSTAR**  
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washboard abs, bubble butt, hung  
10x6. Very masculine, discreet.  
Page 415-207-8826

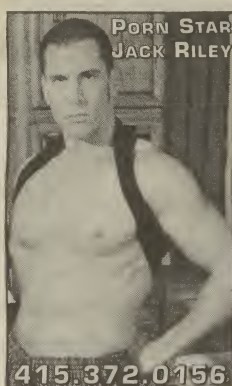
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Sexy, slender Latin jock smooth,  
clean uncut any area  
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Handsome 22yo w/packed shorts  
**SOCCER JOCK**  
Lean, athletic body- versatile  
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Italian stud, Black hair brn eyes  
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22. model looks Hourly/over night.  
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5'8" 140# 32yo hairy toned tats  
**INTENSE FIST**  
Small expert hands  
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**EX-FOOTBALL**  
**PLAYER**  
5'10", 235 solid pounds! 36w 50ch  
**MASCULINE! DOMINANT!**  
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8" Party Stud/Ken/346-4966/\$100

**EXCELLENT TOP**  
Very handsome, hung, passionate,  
creative, strong & gentle, & fulfill  
your fantasies, friendly 207-6117

**AFFECTIONATE 9X6**  
Cute 30 6' 170 nice smile.  
Friendly passionate intelligent  
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Hot Hawaiian-Jap 2 rockhard  
smooth globes of butt! Loads of  
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Handsome muscular hung 8 1/2 Italian  
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lets rock! Tony 487-1959

**STRAPPING LAD**  
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6'3", 210lbs. of smooth muscle.  
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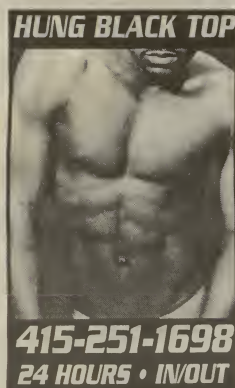
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6', 195, 7 1/2cut, 33 hairy, pierced  
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cbt, va, limits-pushed....  
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**YES SIR!!!**  
Masculine bottom to serve you  
5'9" lean, smooth & muscular  
Take control page Nick 709-1467

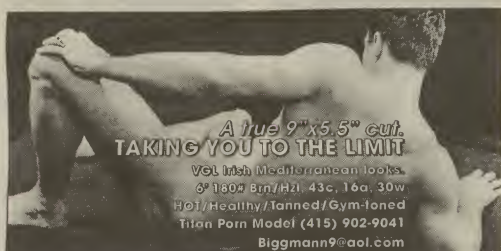
**WANT IT ROUGH?**  
Lean, smooth leather top, 32,  
gives it like you need it.  
SM/BD/FF/WS, dog/slave training  
**PAGE JACK - 790-3312**



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24 HOURS • IN/OUT

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Are you a man with a unique imagination?  
Special cravings? Enjoy erotic  
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Mild to edge. Private playroom.  
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**TAKING YOU TO THE LIMIT**  
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Exp. S&M, versatile, handsome, will  
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Tall very handsome student 26  
muscular hung, strictly kick  
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5'4", 140lbs. muscular \$120  
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**21YR FILIPINO/WHITE**  
5'6" 120lbs very cute bottom  
Jake 415 519 7546 140/in 150/out

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29yo \*lanky\* hung \*hry chest\* shvd  
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Hot fun! Dillon 235-4269cell/vm  
**BLUE EYED SHAMAN**

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30yr.old W/M 5'7" #150 e-z going  
\$100 in/out hotels Red  
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**AUSTRALIAN LAD**  
**HERE FOR A SHORT TIME**  
**VERY HANDSOME,**  
**MUSCULAR/TANNED, VWE**  
**AND VERSATILE. FRIENDLY**  
**AND FUN WITH NO ATTITUDE**  
**ASK FOR SEAN ON**  
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**MUSCLE STUD**  
Clean cut, very defined, masculine.  
Have buddy for 3ways. Out calls  
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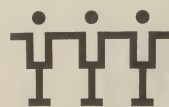




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